

# **Fundamental Mechanisms, Predictive Modeling, and Novel Aerospace Applications of Plasma Assisted Combustion**

---

**AFOSR  
MURI Kick off meeting**

**The Ohio State University  
Nov 4, 2009**



Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.					
1. REPORT DATE <b>04 NOV 2009</b>		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED <b>00-00-2009 to 00-00-2009</b>	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE <b>Fundamental Mechanisms, Predictive Modeling, and Novel Aerospace Applications of Plasma Assisted Combustion</b>				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) <b>Drexel University,A. J. Drexel Plasma Institute,34th St. and Lancaster Ave,Philadelphia,PA,19104</b>				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT <b>Approved for public release; distribution unlimited</b>					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT <b>Same as Report (SAR)</b>	18. NUMBER OF PAGES <b>49</b>	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT <b>unclassified</b>	b. ABSTRACT <b>unclassified</b>	c. THIS PAGE <b>unclassified</b>			

# **Drexel Group: Main Tasks**

## **Thrust 1. Experimental studies of nonequilibrium air-fuel plasma kinetics using advanced non-intrusive diagnostics**

**Task 1: Low-to-Moderate ( $T=300-800$  K) temperature, spatial and time-dependent radical species concentration and temperature measurements in nanosecond pulse plasmas in a variety of fuel-air mixtures pressures ( $P=0.5-5$  atm), and equivalence ratios**

**Task 4: Moderate-to-high ( $T=800 - 1800$  K) temperature PAC oxidation kinetics in Discharge Shock Tube Facility at pressures up to 10 bar**

**Task 5: PAC oxidation and combustion initiation at high pressure, high temperature conditions**

## **Thrust 2. Kinetic model development and validation**

**Task 8: Development and validation of a predictive kinetic model of non-equilibrium plasma fuel oxidation and ignition**

**Task 9: Mechanism Reduction and Dynamic Multi-time Scale Modeling of Detailed Plasma-Flame Chemistry**

## **Thrust 3. Experimental and modeling studies of fundamental nonequilibrium discharge processes**

**Task 10: Characterization and Modeling of Nsec Pulsed Plasma Discharges**

## **Thrust 4. Studies of diffusion and transport of active species in representative two-dimensional reacting flow geometries**

**Task 13: Ignition and flameholding in high-speed non-premixed flows**

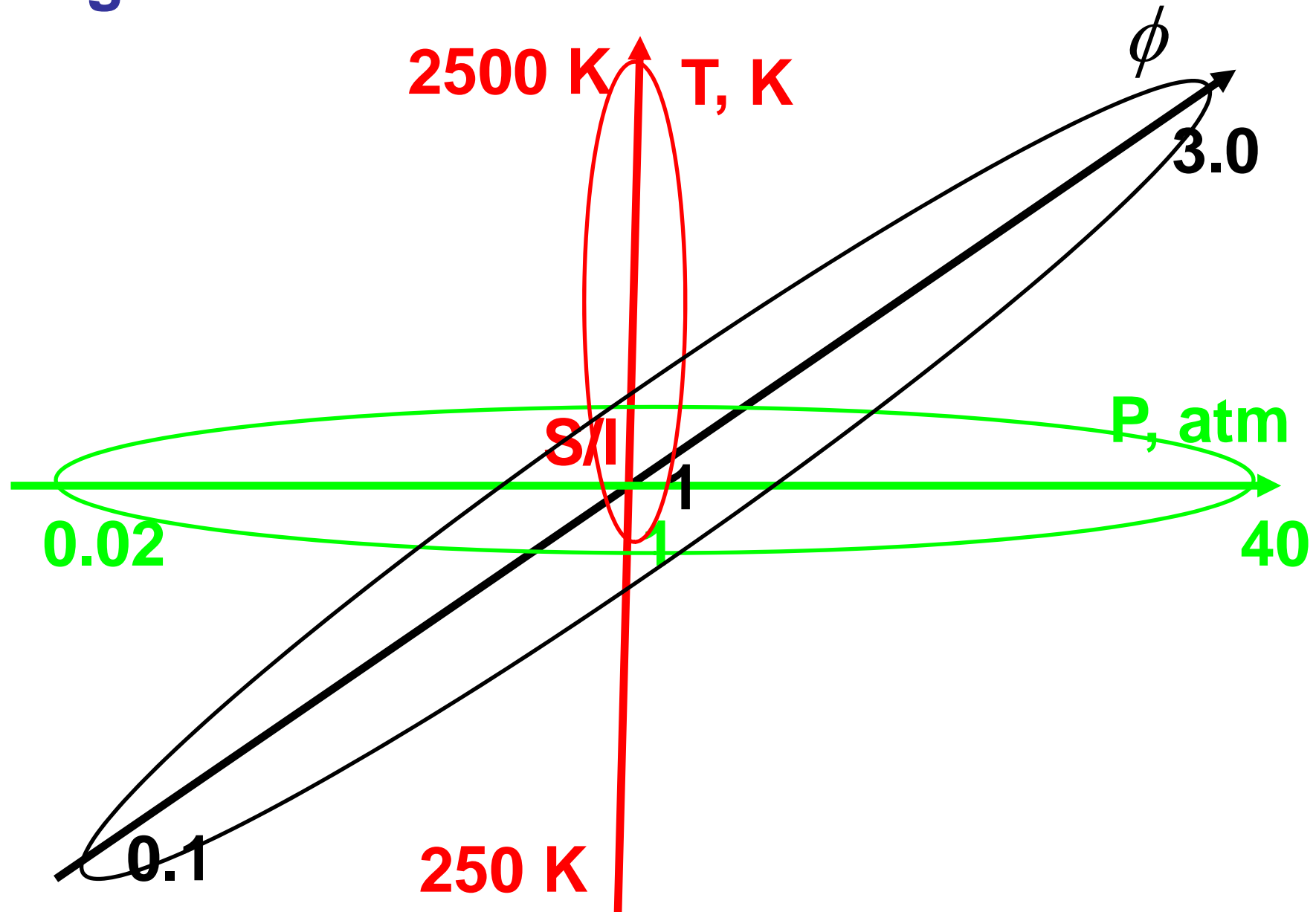
**Task 14: High Fidelity Modeling of Plasma Assisted Combustion in Complex Flow Environments**

# **Drexel Group: International Collaboration**

## **International Collaborators**

Svetlana Starikovskaya (Ecole Pol)	– Thrust 1
Alexander Rakitin (NEQLab)	– Thrust 1
Boris Potapkin (KIAE)	– Thrust 2
Alexander Konnov (VUB)	– Thrust 2
Nickolay Aleksandrov (MIPT)	– Thrust 3
Sergey Pancheshnyi (Univ Toulouse)	– Thrust 3
Sergey Leonov (IVTAN)	– Thrust 4

# Range of Parameters – Combustion Kinetics



# Problems of Plasma-Chemical Models

Availability and accuracy of data on electron collision cross sections

+	$\text{H}_2$	$\text{CH}_4$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$
?	$\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}$	$\text{C}_5\text{H}_{12}$	...	

Availability and accuracy of chemical models below self-ignition point

+	$\text{H}_2$					
?	$\text{CH}_4$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$	$\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}$	$\text{C}_5\text{H}_{12}$	...

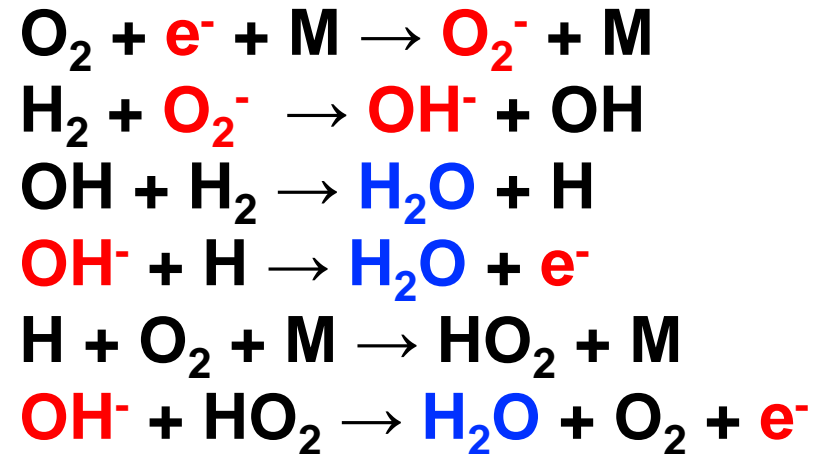
Availability and accuracy of physical and chemical models for non-equilibrium conditions

+	Radical's mechanism
?	Ionic chain mechanism
?	Energy chain mechanism

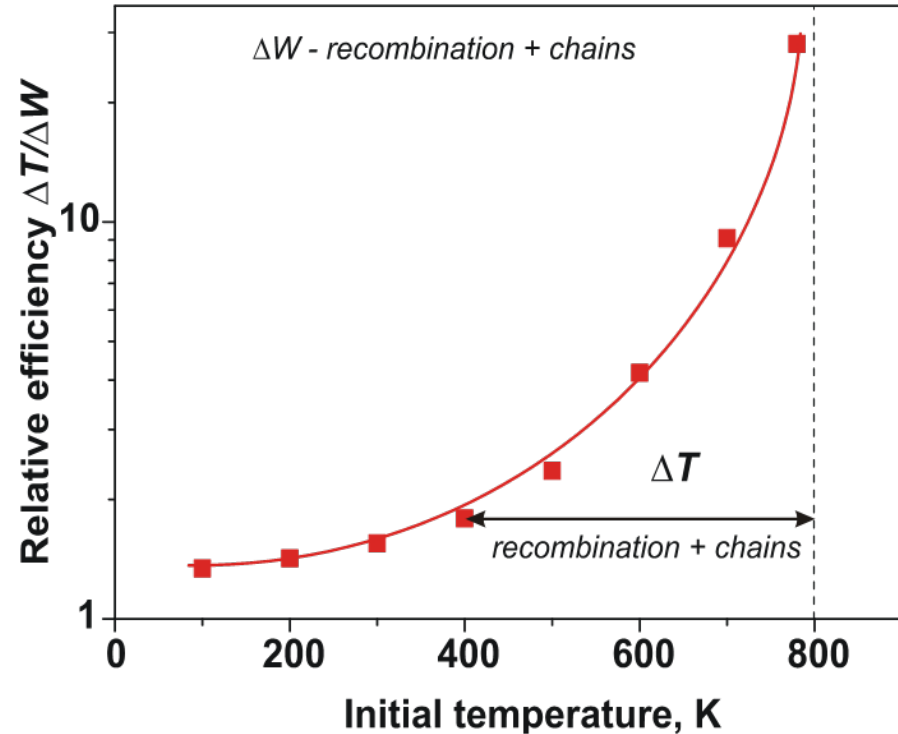
# Models for Low-Temperature Plasma Assisted Combustion

Starikovskii et al.,

Plasma Physics Reports, 2000 (26) 701

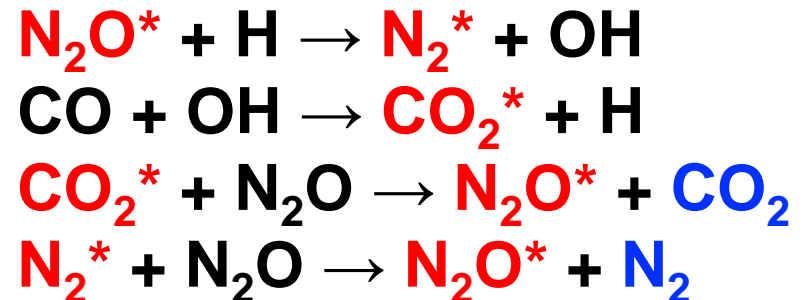


800 K: autoignition gives 1 s

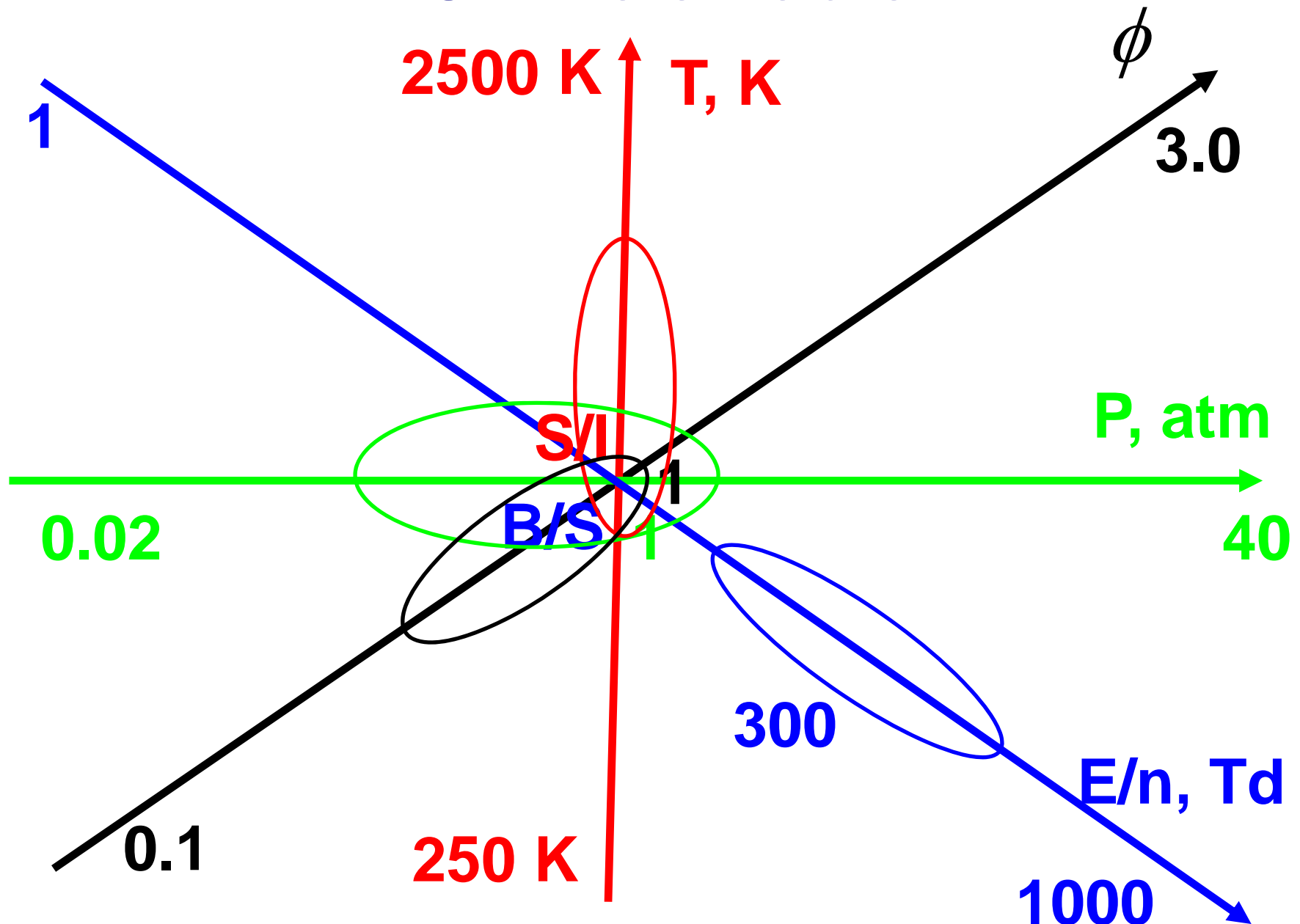


Starikovskii,

Chemical Physics Reports, 2003 (11) 1



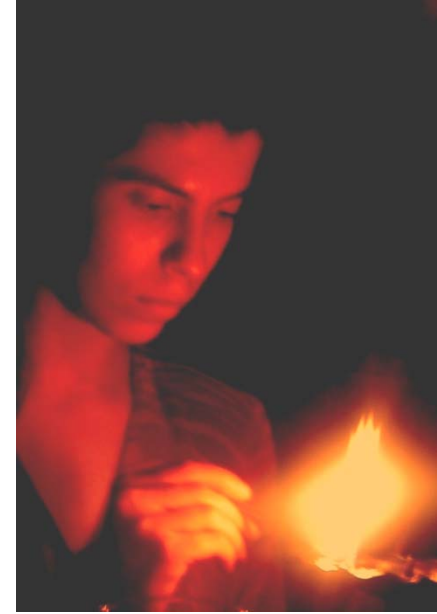
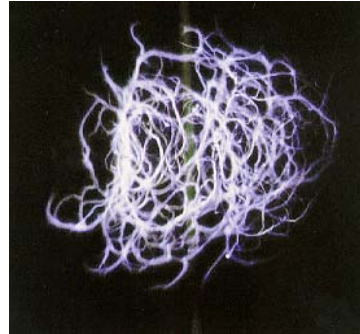
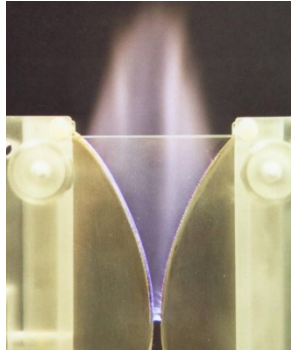
# PAC: Where we are





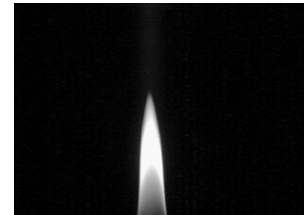
# Mechanisms of Plasma Influence

## 1. Heating

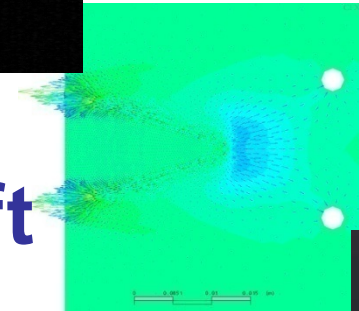


## 2. Turbululization

## 3. Momentum Transfer



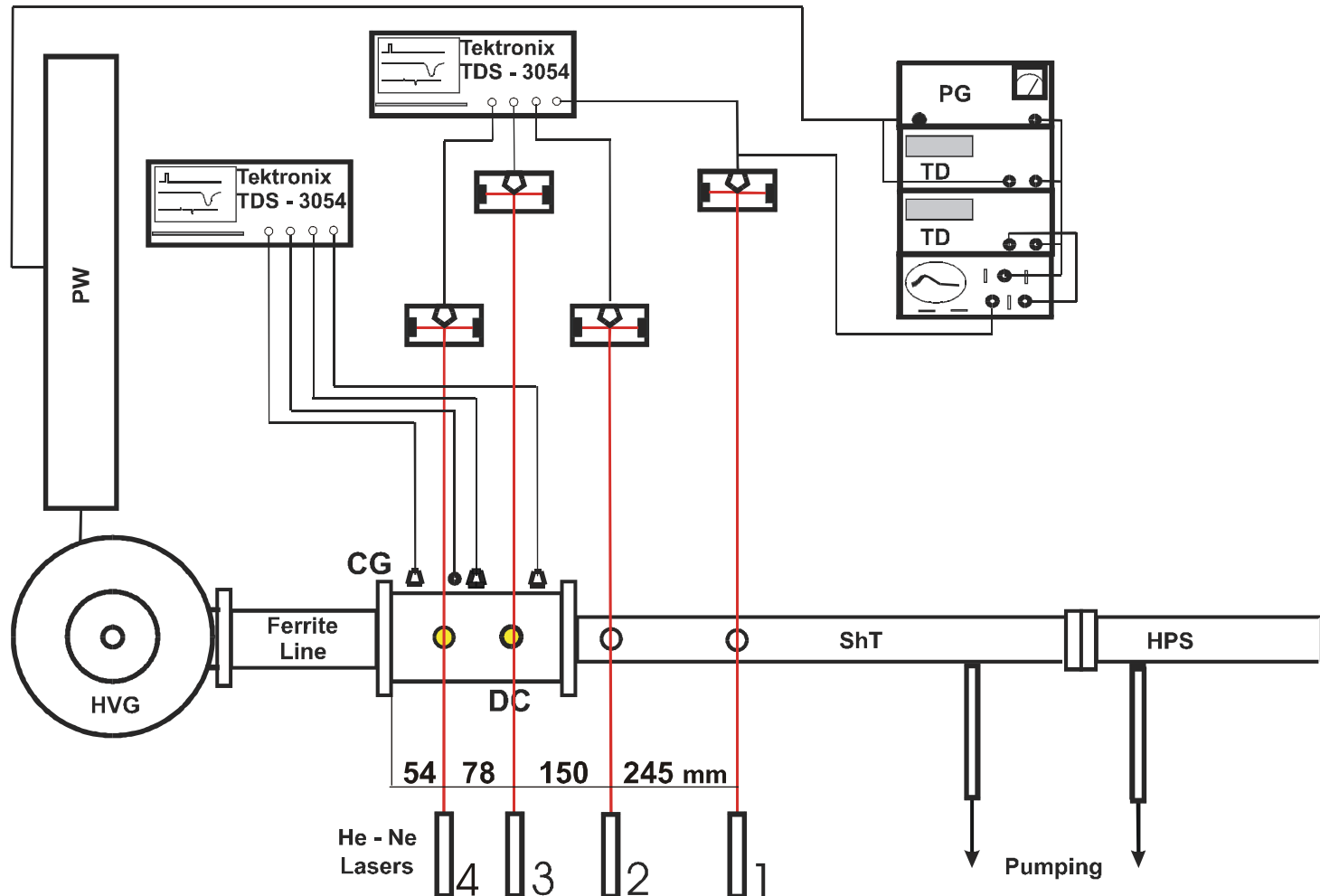
## 4. Electrons/Ions Diffusion/Drift



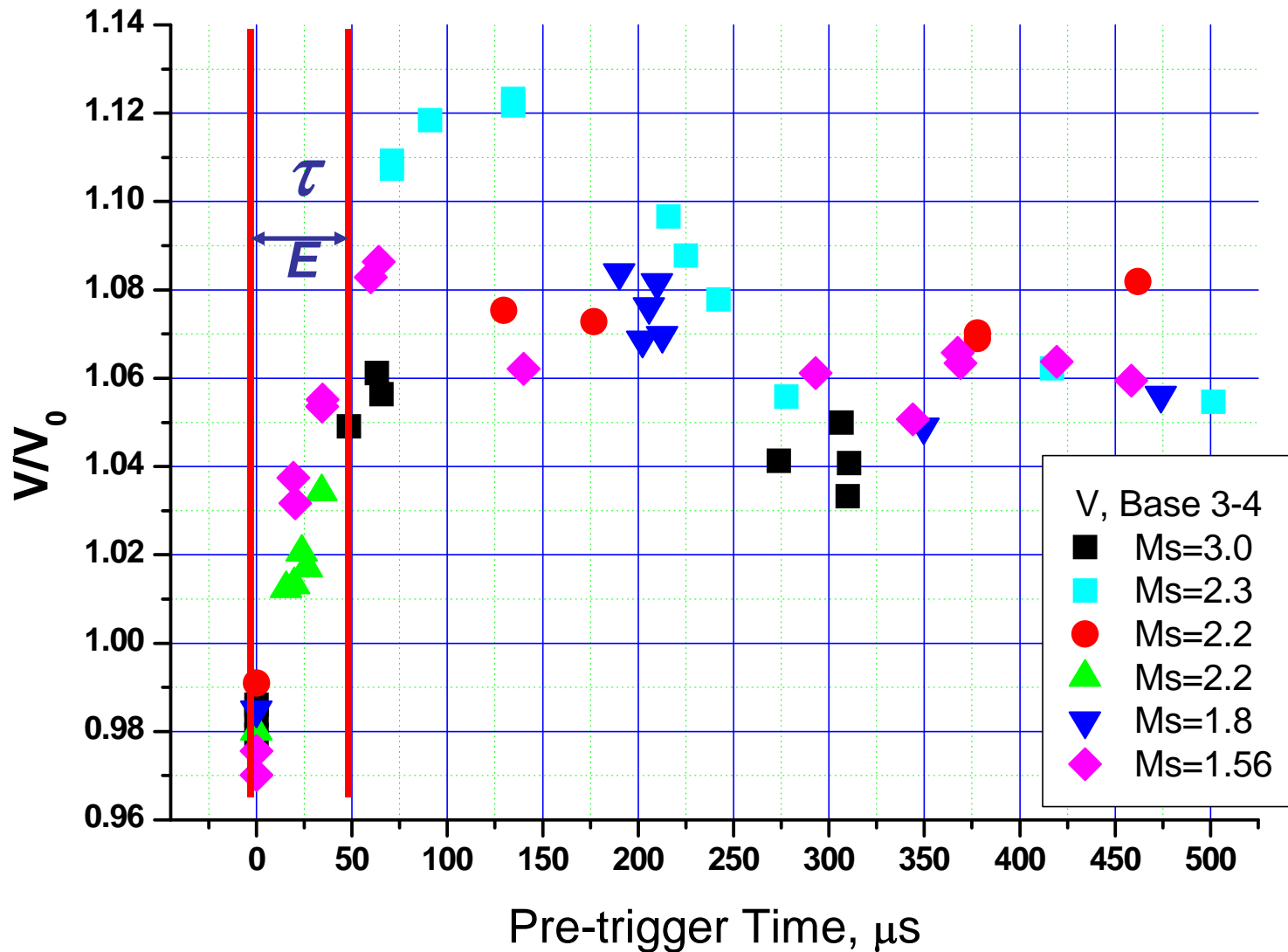
## 5. Dissociation, Ionization



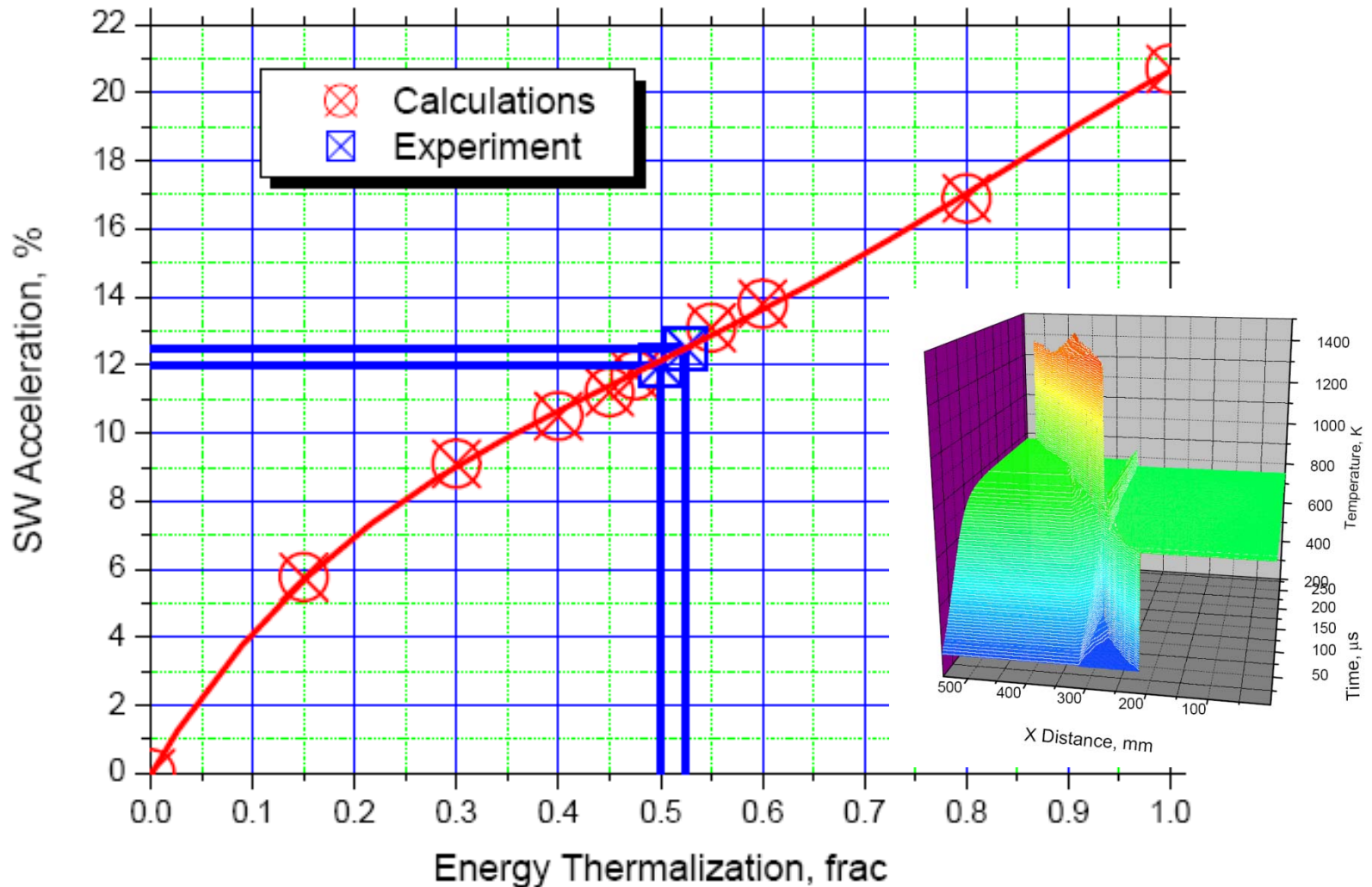
# Shock Wave - Nonequilibrium Plasma Interaction



# Relaxation of Nonequilibrium Plasma. Air. $P_1 \sim 20$ Torr

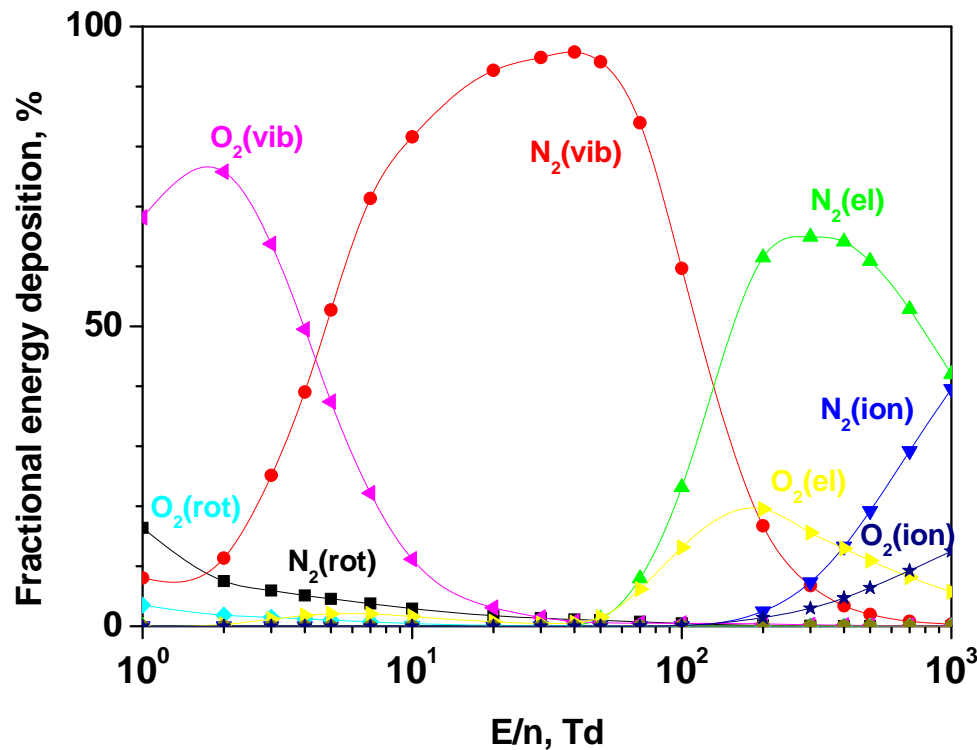


# Relaxation of Nonequilibrium Plasma. Air. $P_1 \sim 20$ Torr



# Mechanism of fast heating in discharge plasmas (low E/N)

Air



Low ( $< 20$  Td) E/N:

$e + N_2, O_2$

- elastic scattering

- rotational excitation

# Mechanism of fast heating in discharges (moderate E/N)

Moderate (20 - 200 Td) E/N:

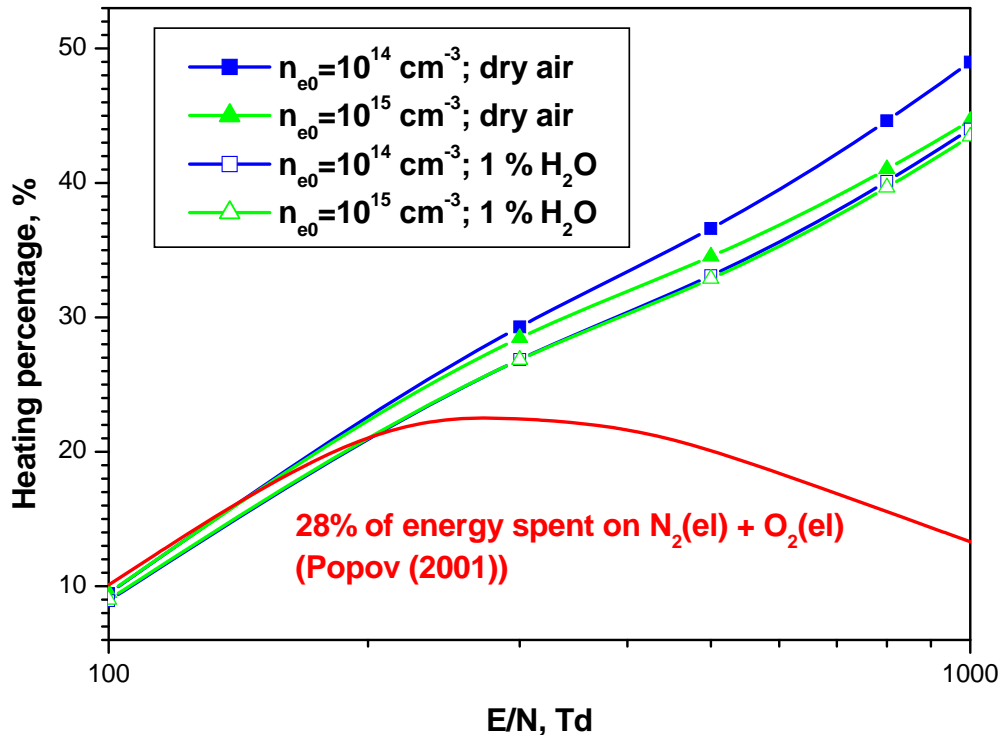
Popov (2001) heating  $\rightarrow$  28 % of power spent on  $N_2^* + O_2^*$



$$k \sim 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$

# Mechanism of fast heating in discharge plasmas (high E/N)

Aleksandrov et al. (2009)

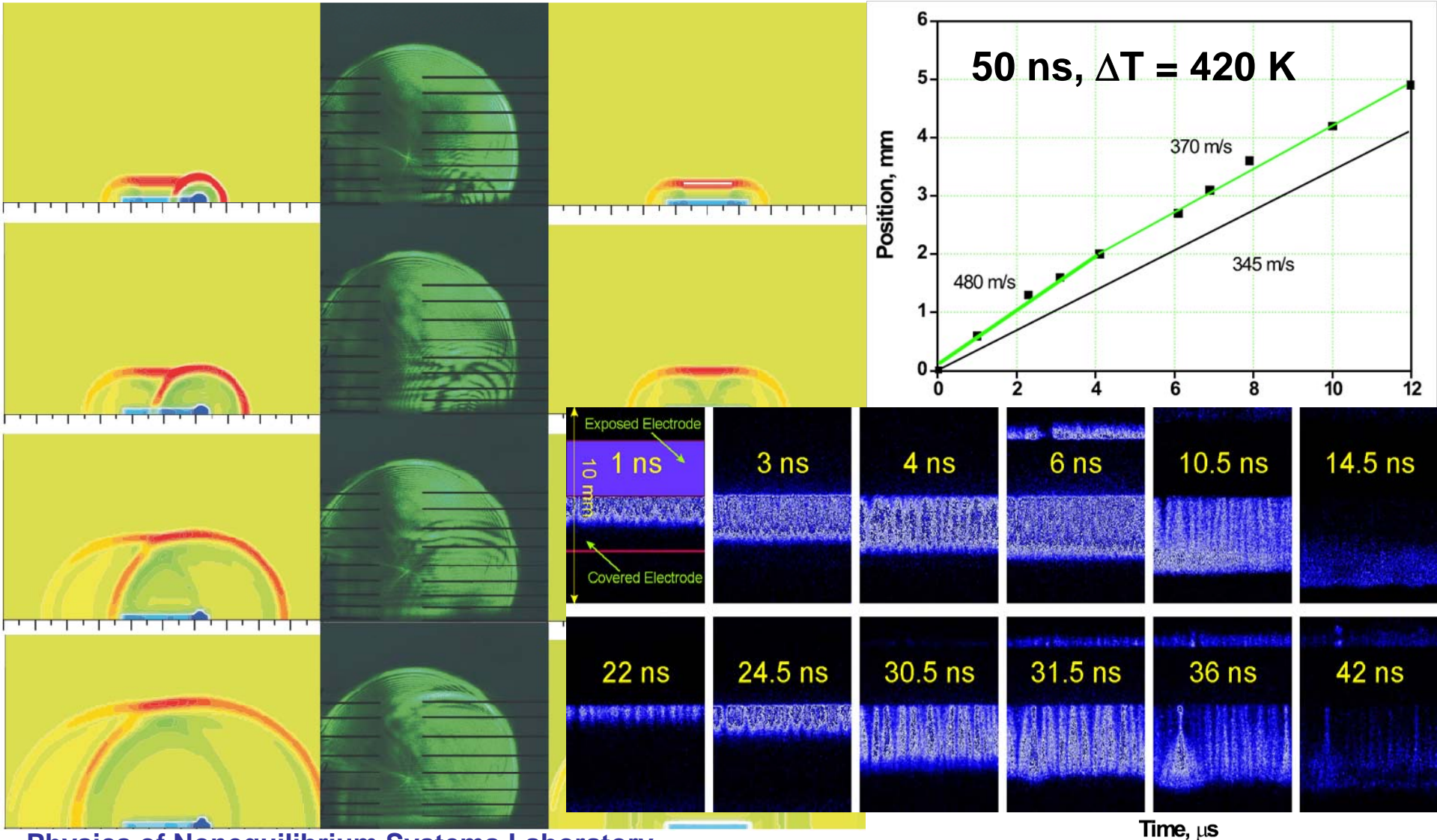


High ( $> 200 \text{ Td}$ ) E/N:

electron-ion and ion-ion recombination kinetics

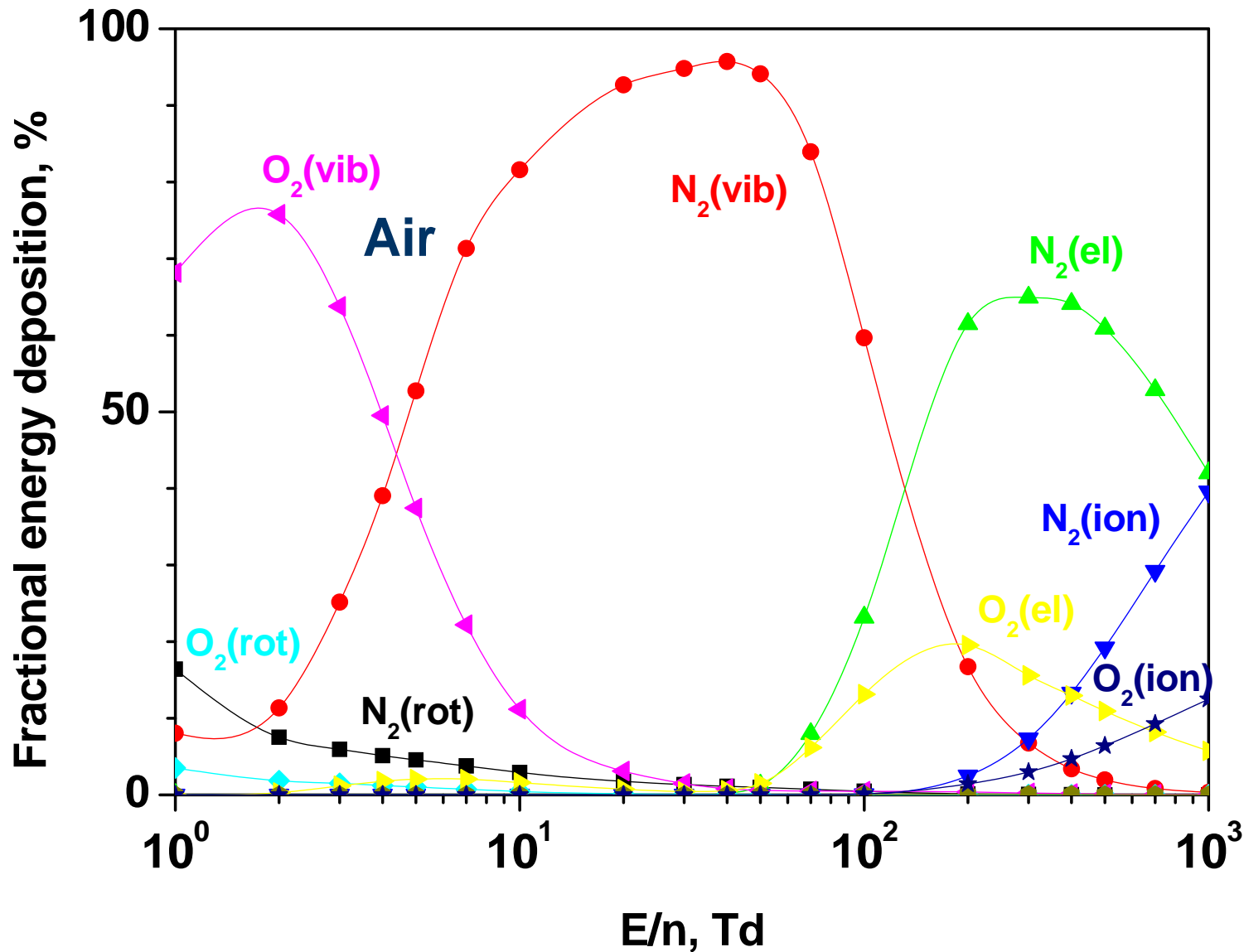


# Heat Release and Shock Wave Formation by “Nonequilibrium” Plasma





# Energy Distribution in Gas Discharge



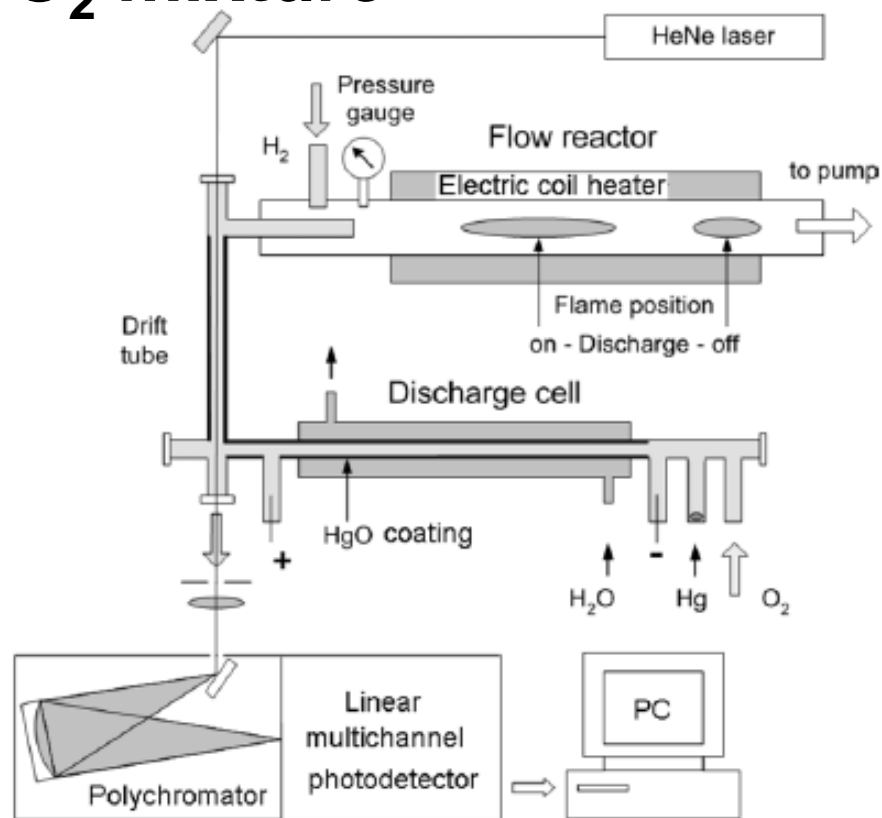
# Molecular Oxygen Excitation

To directly observe the influence of SDO on the combustion of  $\text{H}_2\text{-O}_2$  mixture

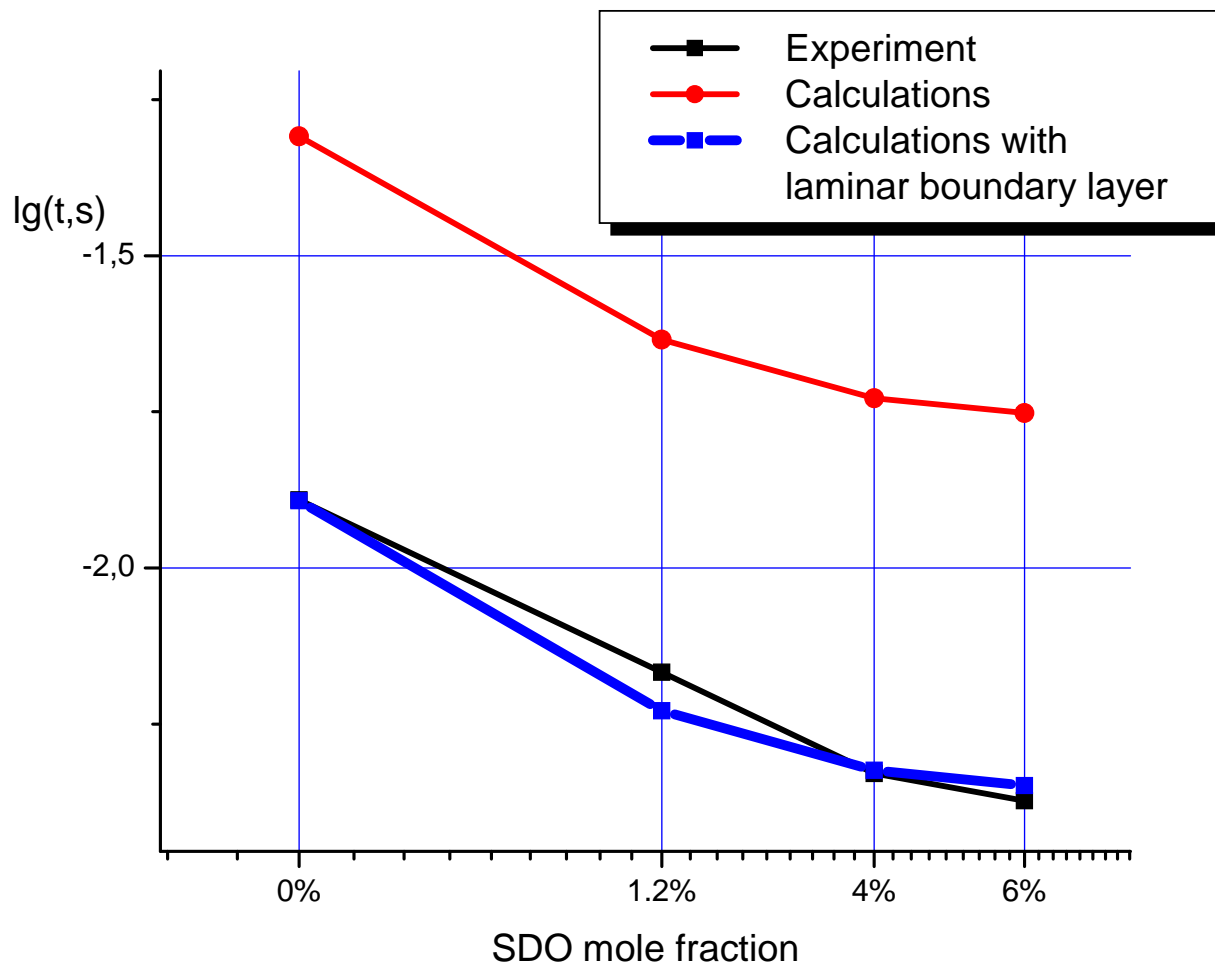
Delivering sufficient amount of SDO

Minimizing the effect of O atom

Lower the inlet temperature

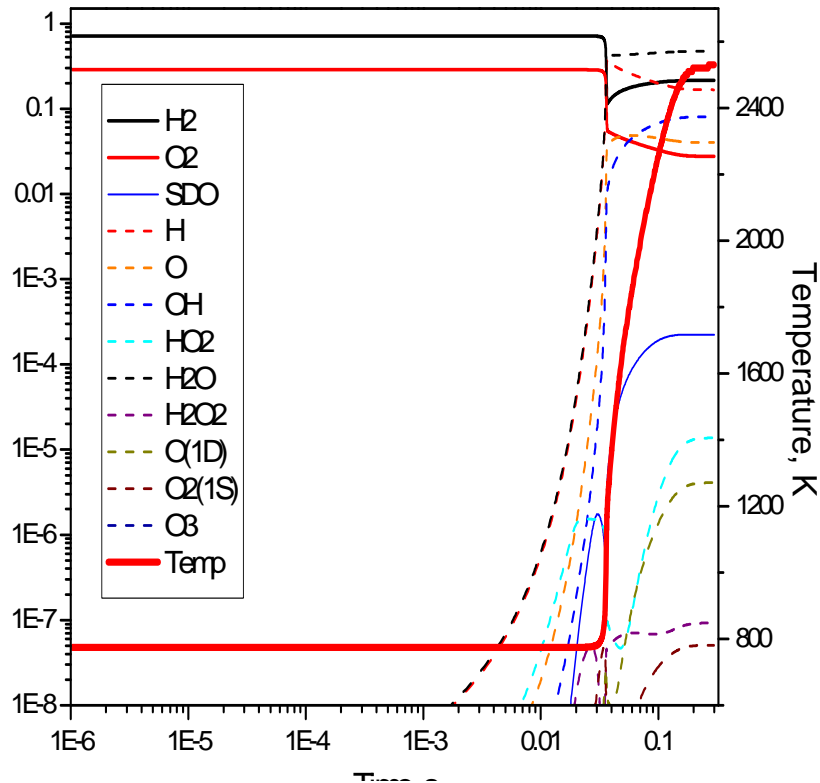


# SDO kinetic analysis

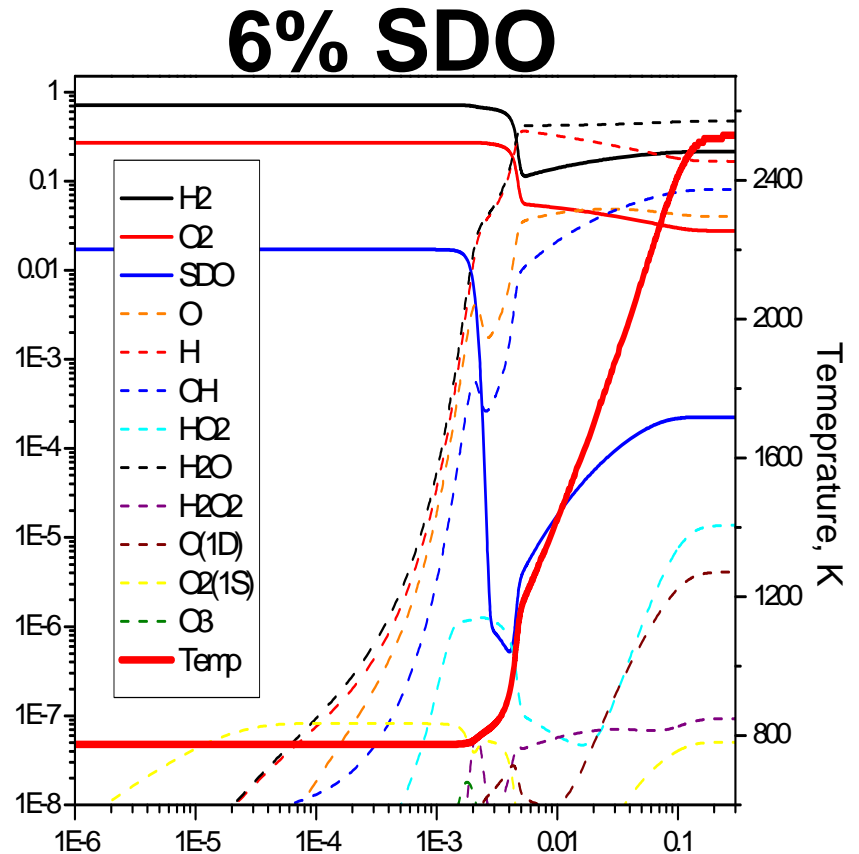


**The ignition time as a function of SDO mole fraction in oxygen.  
T=775 K and P=10 Torr in the H<sub>2</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>=5:2 mixture**

# SDO kinetic analysis



## Auto-ignition



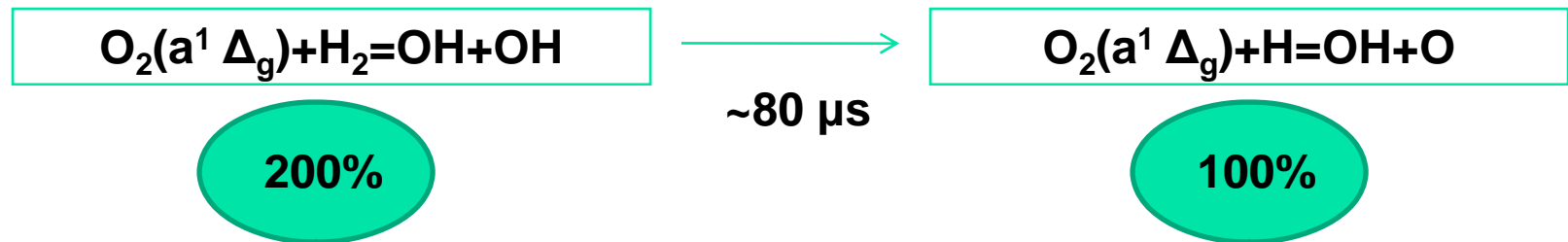
The evolution in time of the mole fractions of the main component for autoignition (a) and ignition with 6% singlet delta oxygen. The gas temperature evolution is represented by the thick red line.

# SDO kinetic analysis

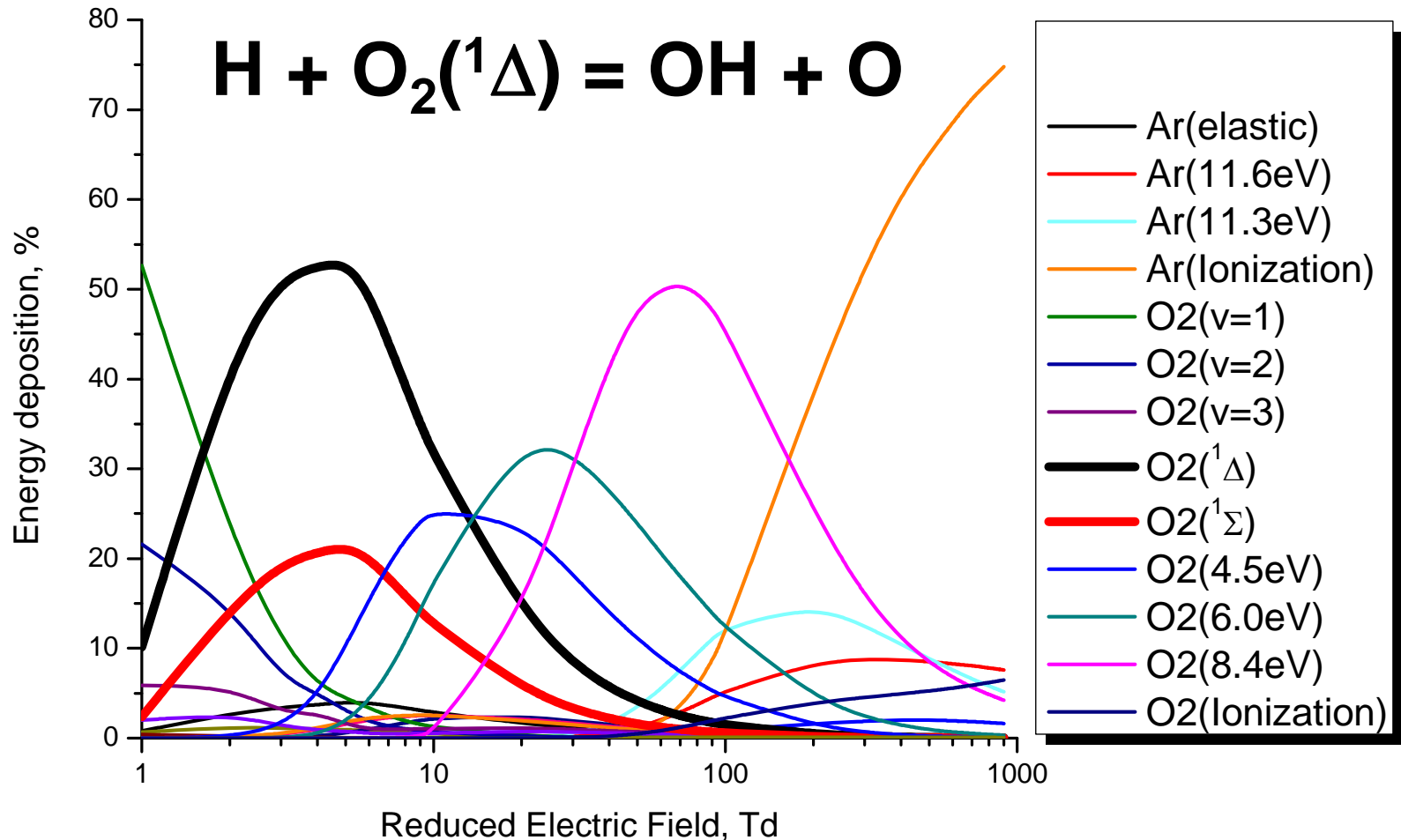
## Possible reasons

Auto	SDO
$O_2 + M = O + O + M$ (slow) $H_2 + O = OH + H$ $O_2 + H = OH + O$ $OH + OH = H_2O + O$ ... ...	$O_2(a^1 \Delta_g) + H_2 = OH + OH$ (fast) $OH + H_2 = H_2O + H$ $O_2(a^1 \Delta_g) + H = OH + O$ $O_2 + H = OH + O$ $OH + OH = H_2O + O$ ...

## Radical generation efficiency



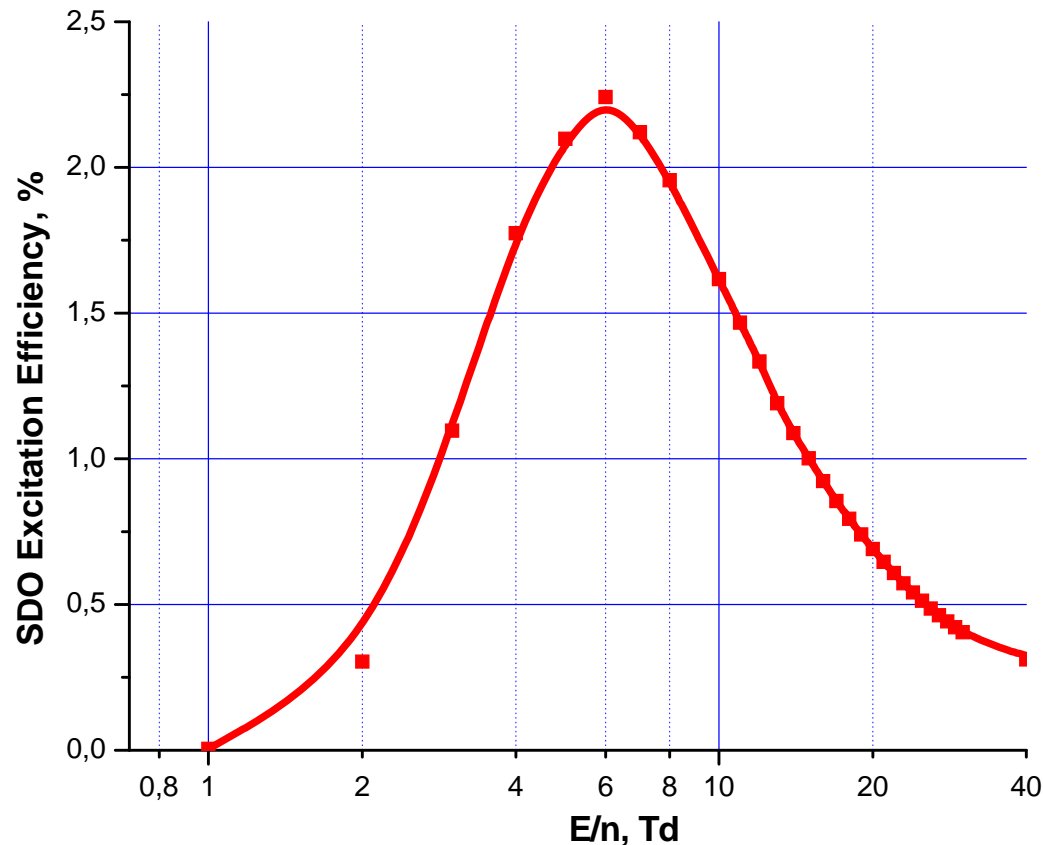
# Energy Distribution in O<sub>2</sub>-Ar (15%:85%) Mixture



- **74% energy in excitation of singlet oxygen at E/n= 5 Td**
  - Approximately 53% in singlet delta state
  - About 21% in singlet sigma state

# SDO Excitation efficiency in air plasma

$$E/n = 6 \text{ Td } (=10^{-17} \text{ Vcm}^2)$$



**Air Plasma**

N2 Elastique	1.8 %
N2(ROT)	4 %
<b>N2 (V=1)</b>	<b>49 %</b>
<b>N2 (V=2)</b>	<b>7.3 %</b>
N2 (V=3)	1.4 %
N2 (V=4)	0.2 %

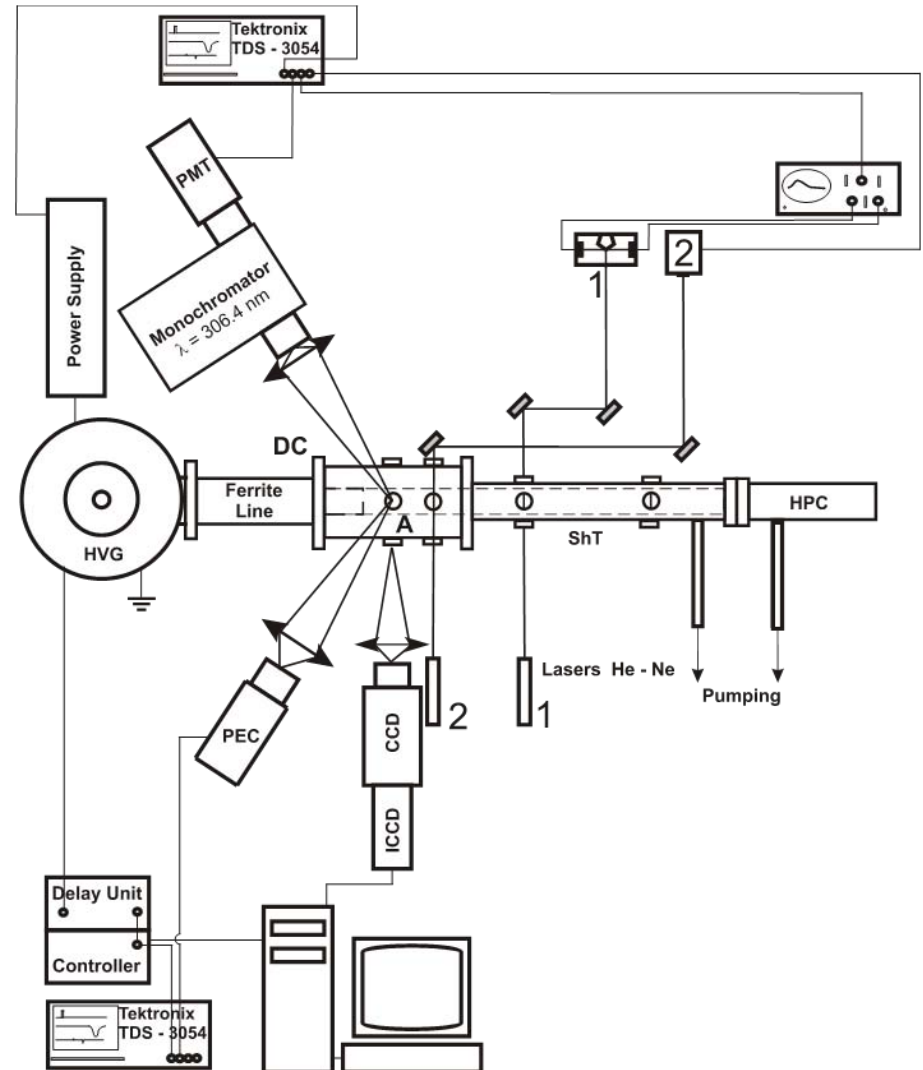
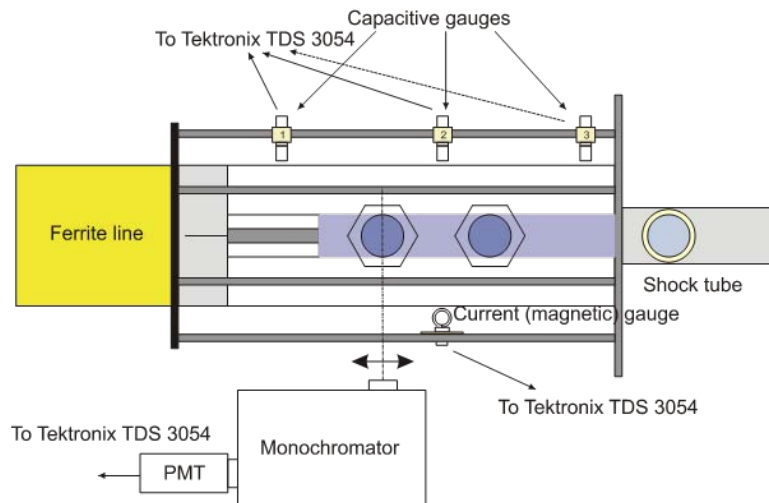
O2 Elastique	0.3 %
O2 (ROT)	0.2 %
<b>O2 (V=1)</b>	<b>17 %</b>
<b>O2 (V=2)</b>	<b>11 %</b>
O2 (V=3)	4.1 %
O2 (V=4)	1.4 %
<b>O2 (a<sup>1</sup>Δ<sub>g</sub>)</b>	<b>2.2 %</b>
O2 (b <sup>1</sup> Σ)	0.1%

# Shock Tube with Discharge Section.

$U \leq 0.3 \text{ MV}$ ,  $M \leq 3$

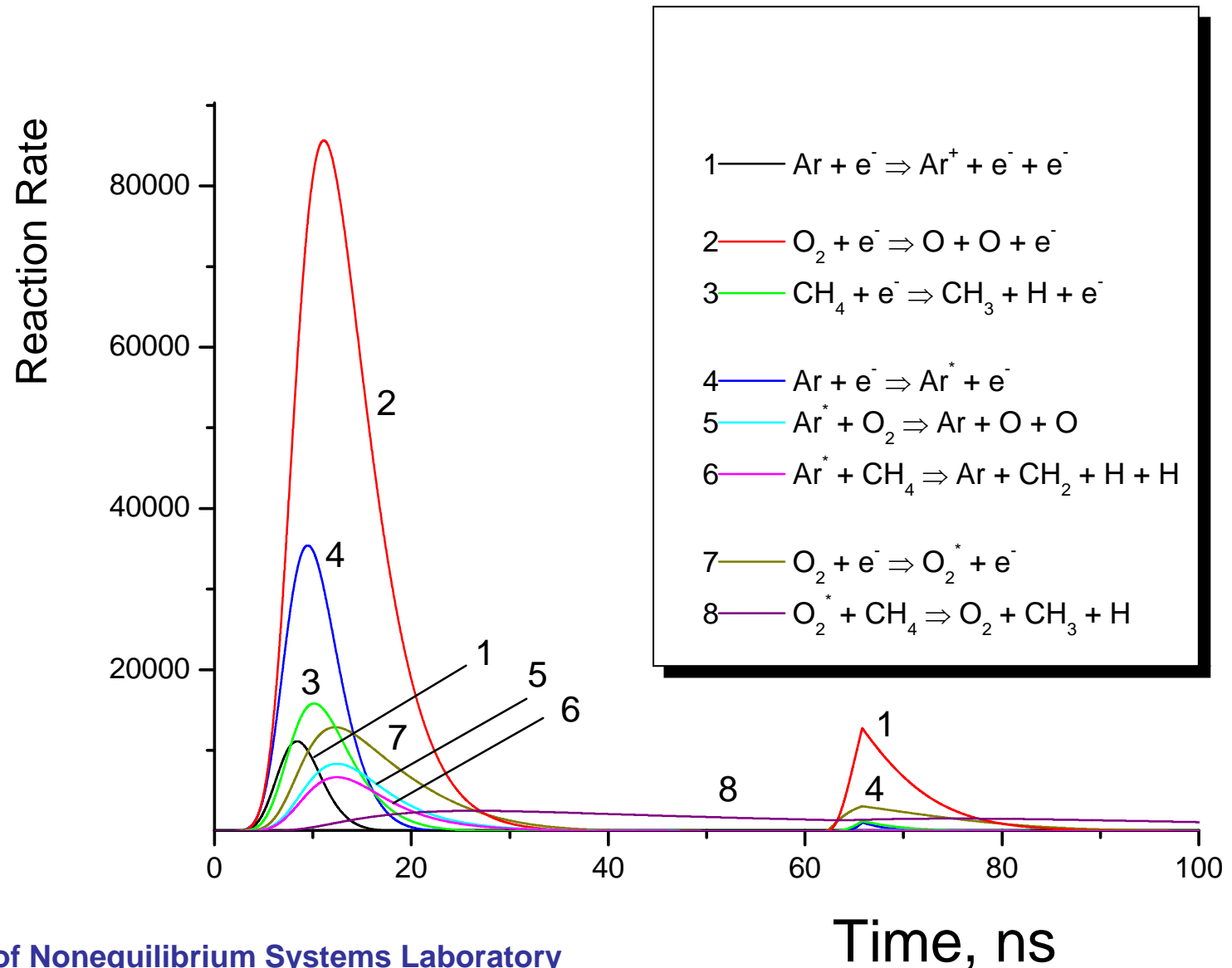
Starikovskaya et al

## Test Section of the Shock Tube

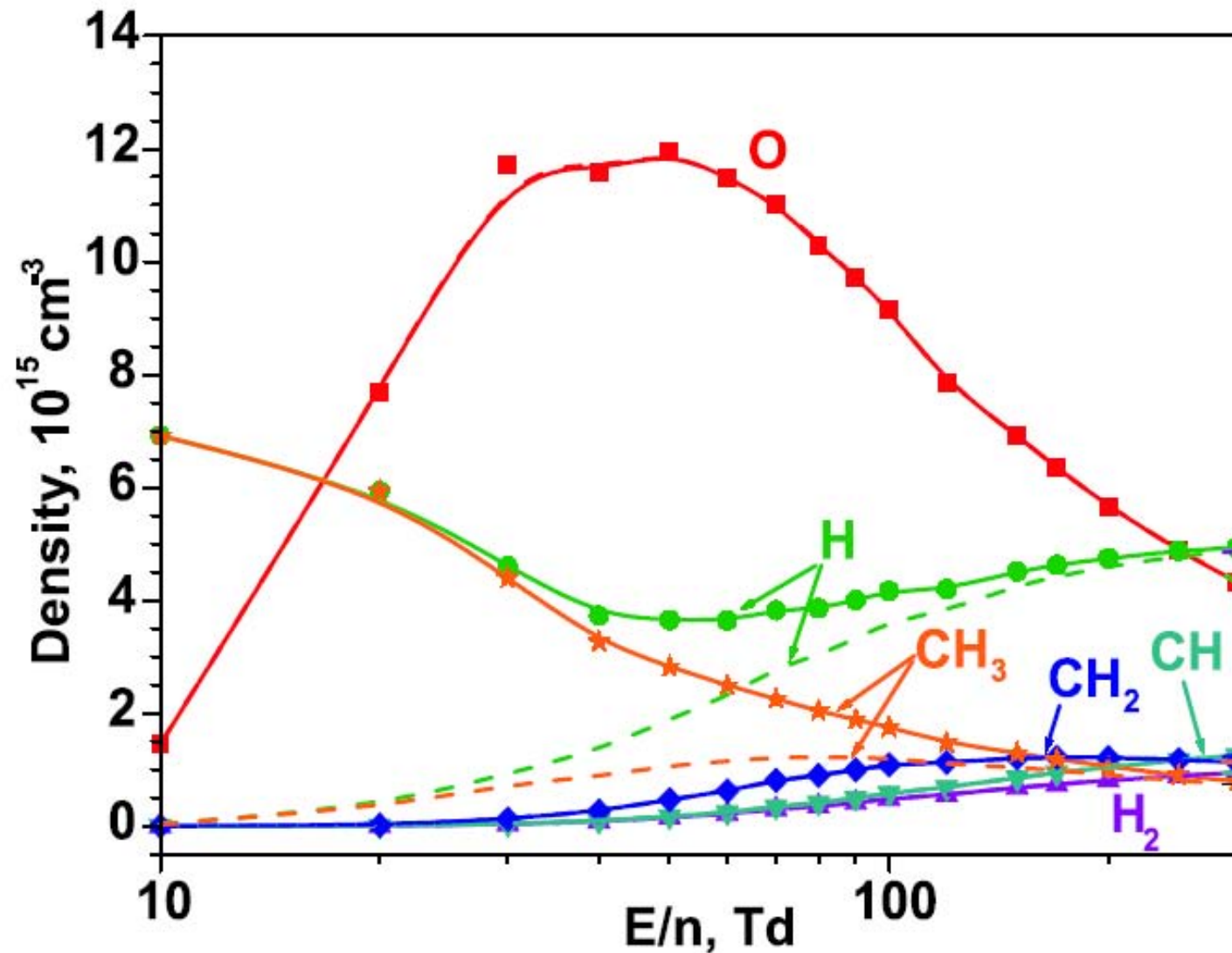




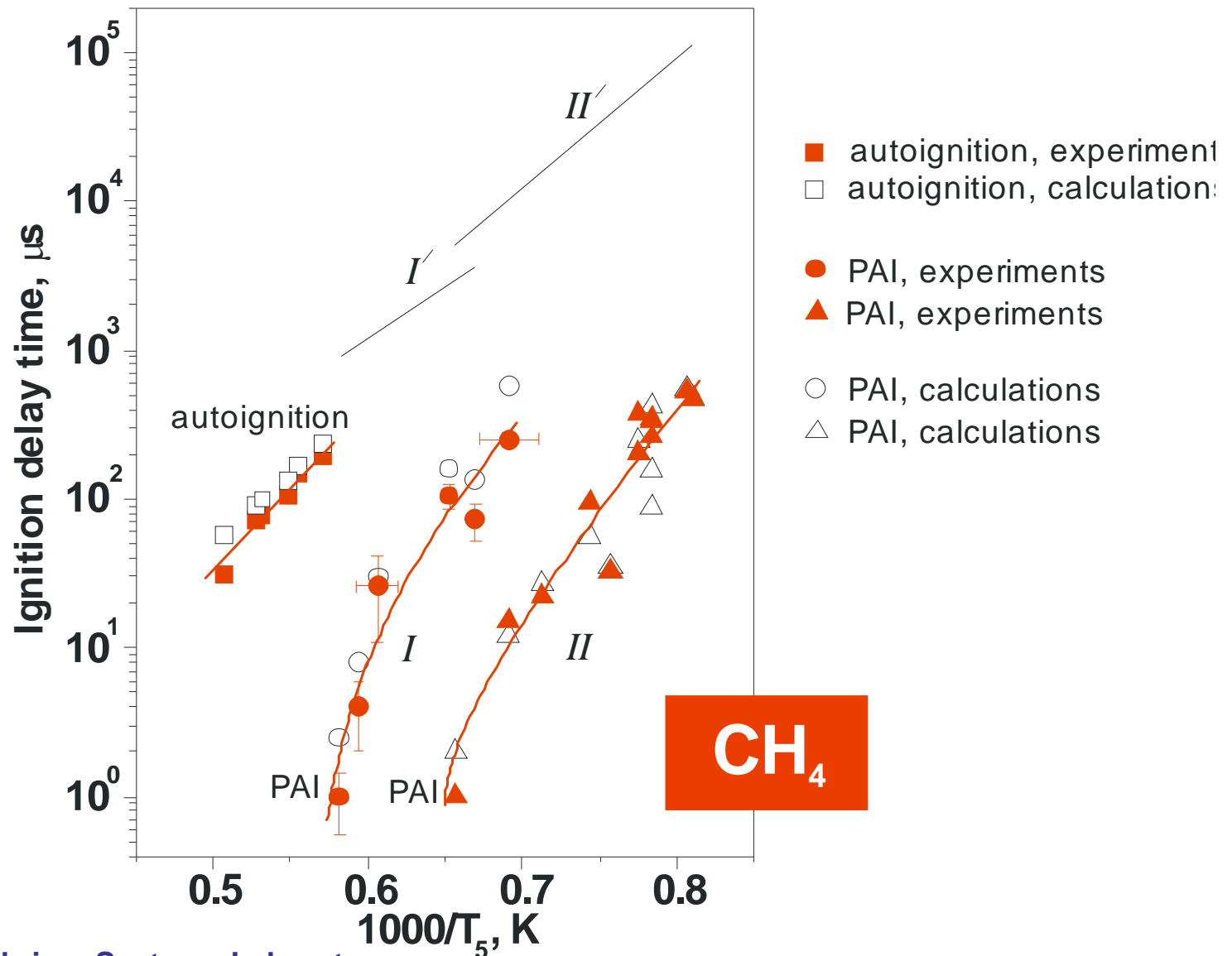
# Main Processes During Discharge Phase



# Radicals Production in Discharge CH<sub>4</sub>-containing mixture

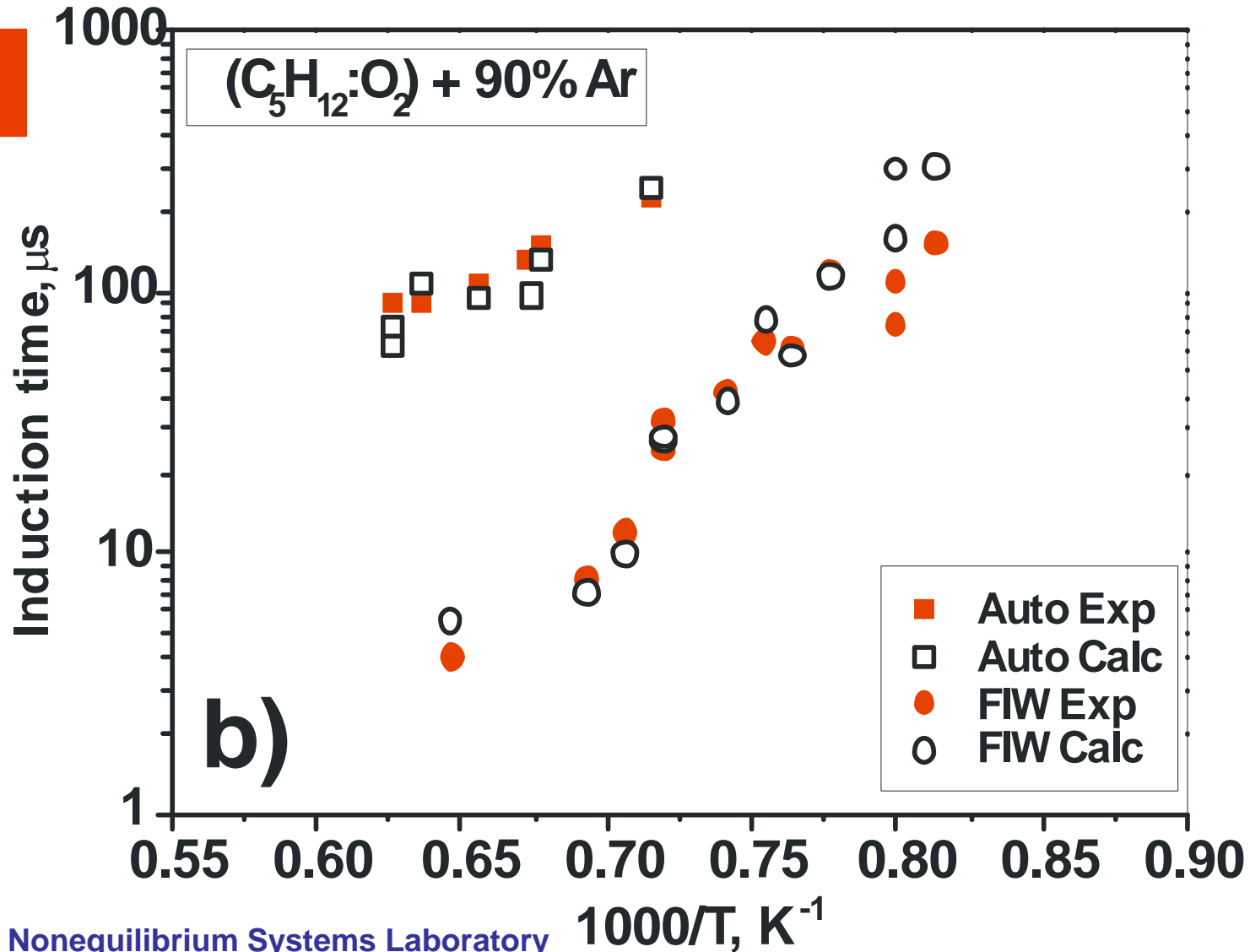


# Ignition Delay Time: Methane-Containing Mixture

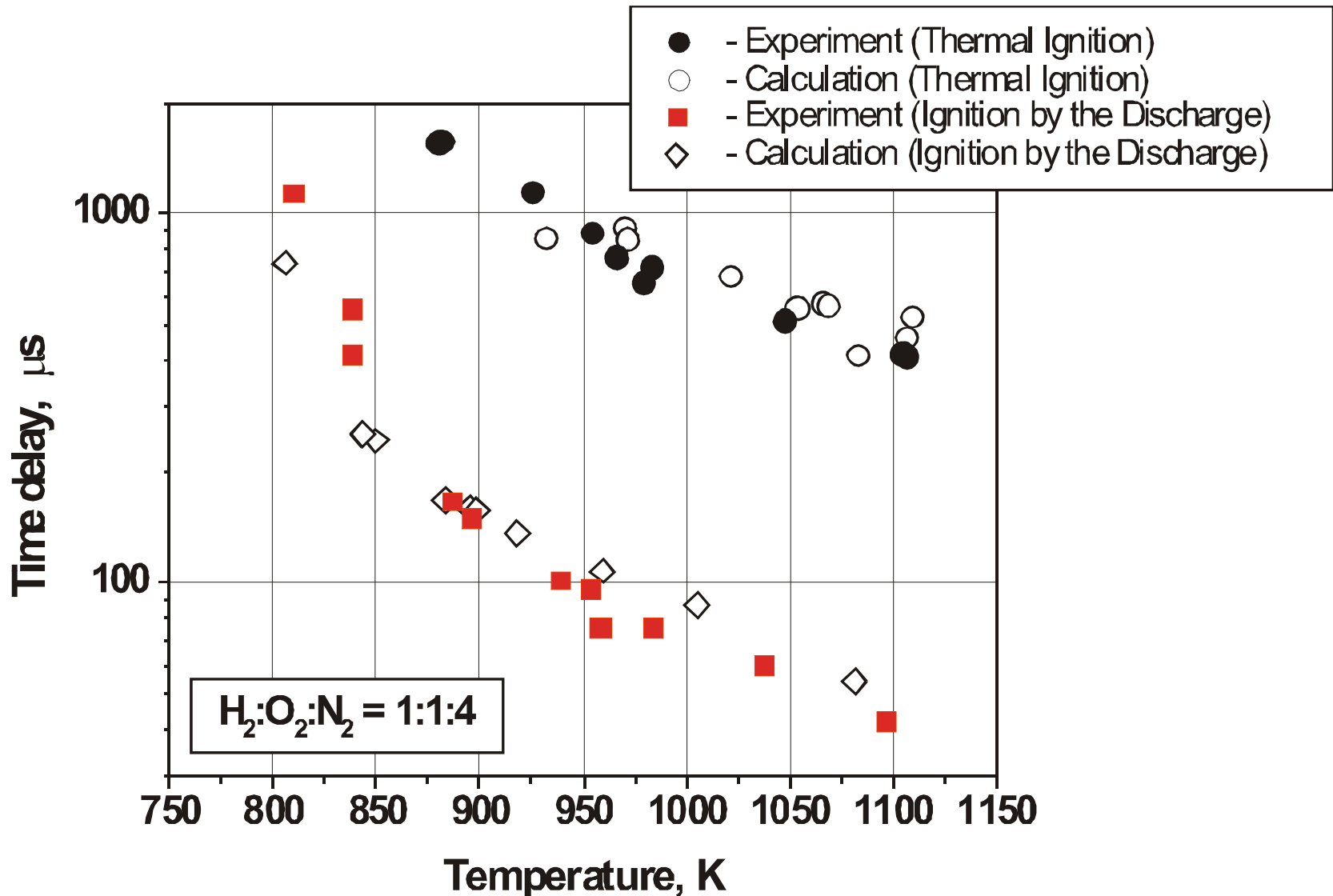


# RAMEC (for C1) + Westbrook (C2-C7) + High Pressure Adjustment

**C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub>**



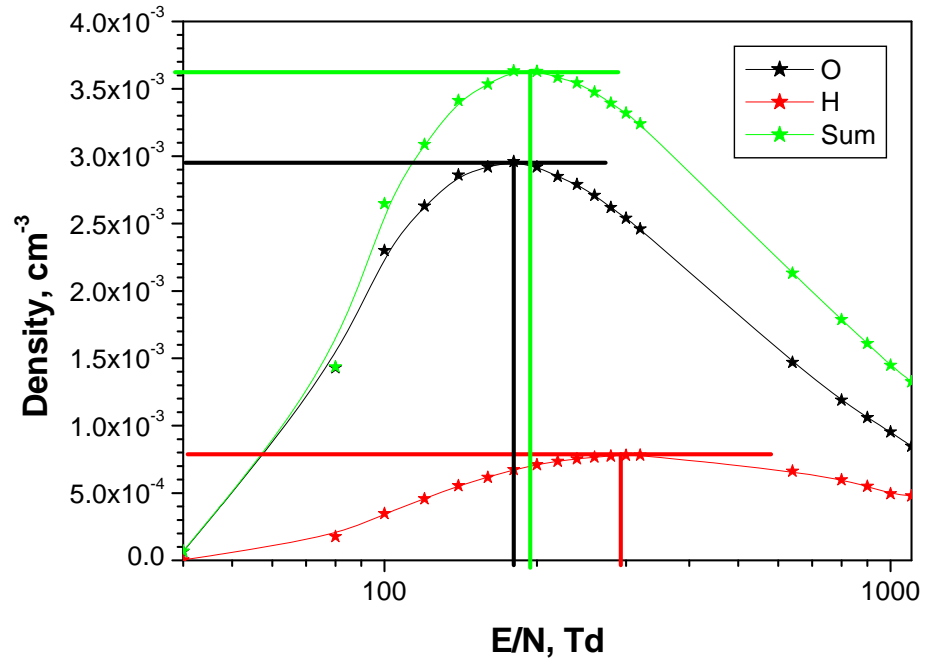
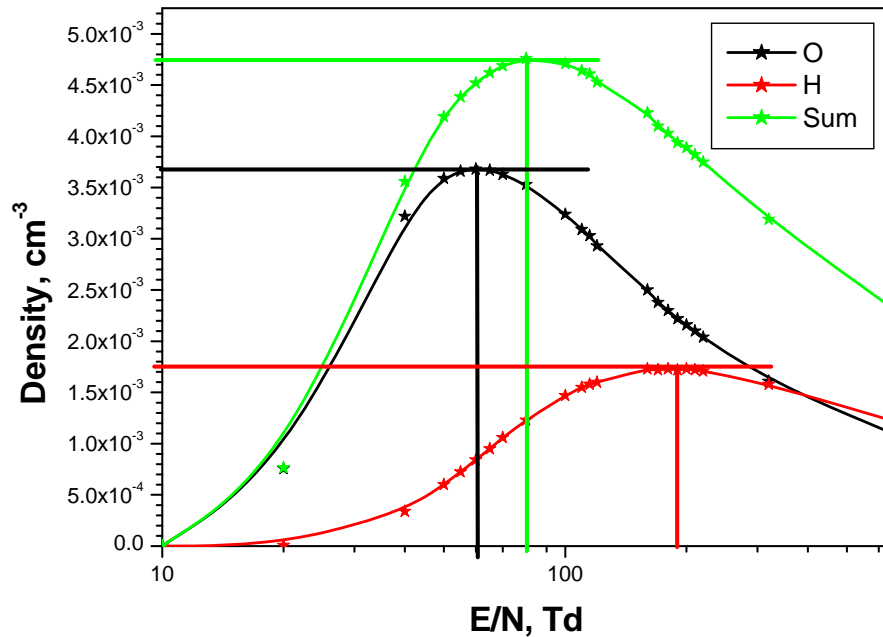
# Experiment and Calculations in H<sub>2</sub>-Air Mixture



# Modeling of Radicals Formation vs $E/n$ ( $W=14 \text{ mJ/cm}^3$ )

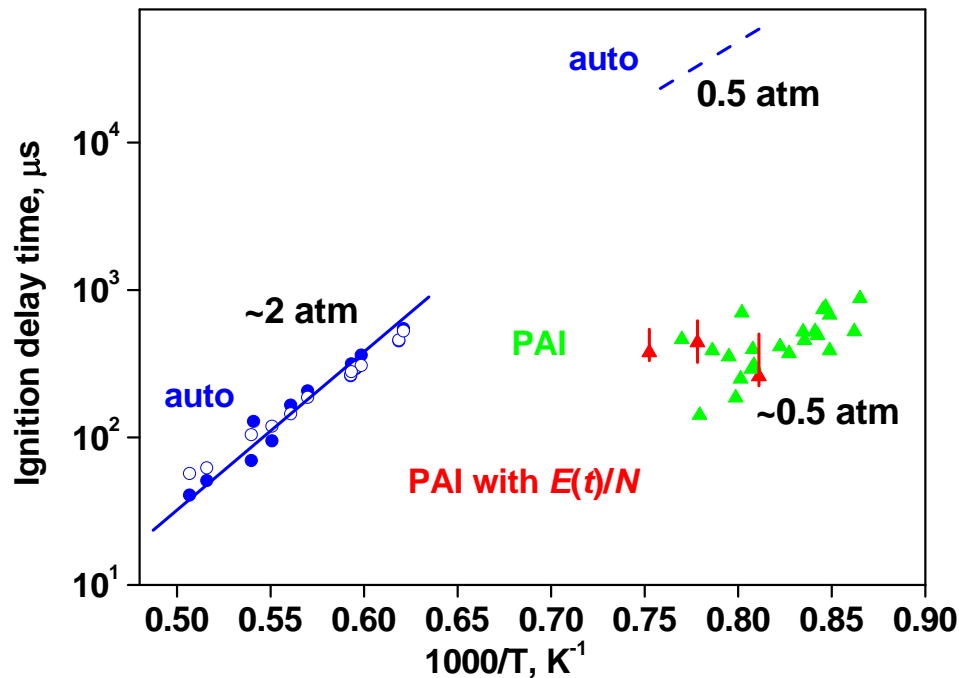
$\text{H}_2:\text{O}_2:\text{N}_2=29.5:14.75:55.75$

$\text{H}_2:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar}=29.5:14.75:55.75$

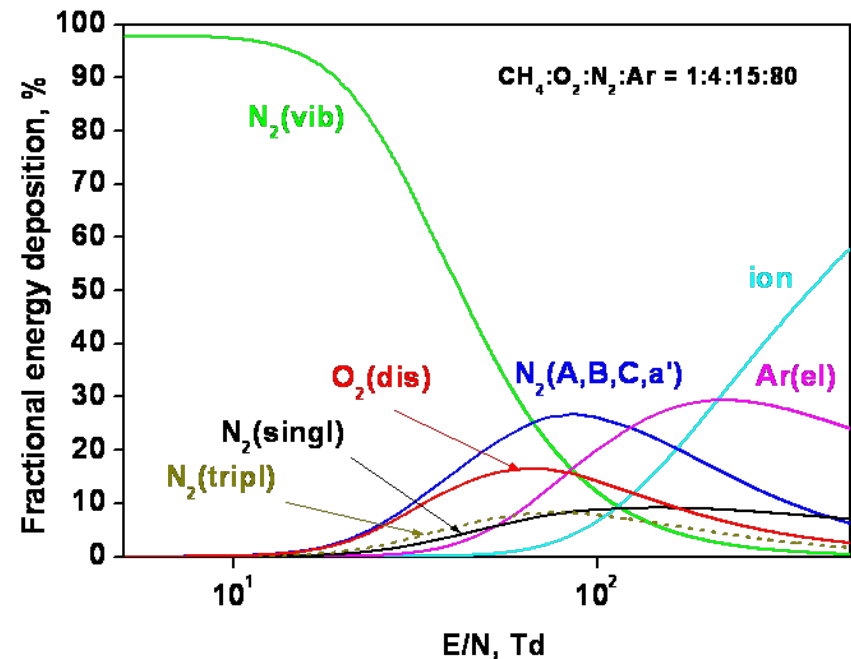


# Delay time for autoignition and plasma assisted ignition in CH<sub>4</sub>-containing mixture

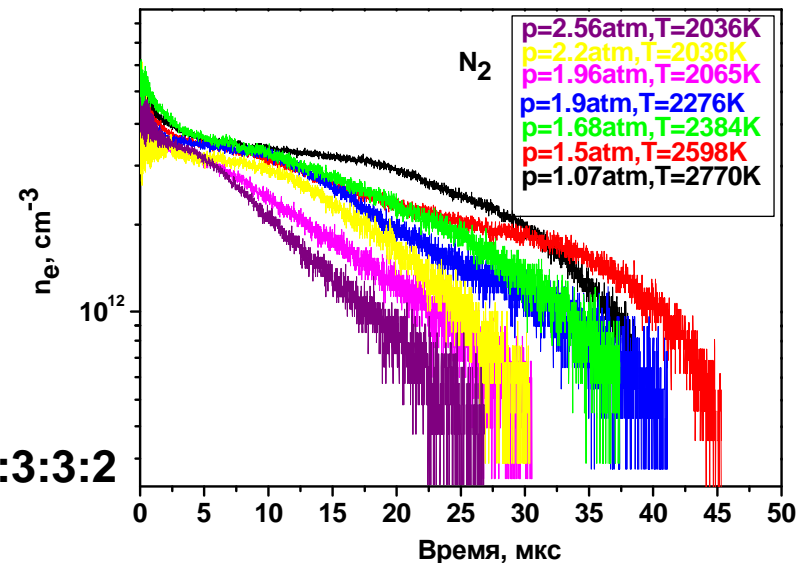
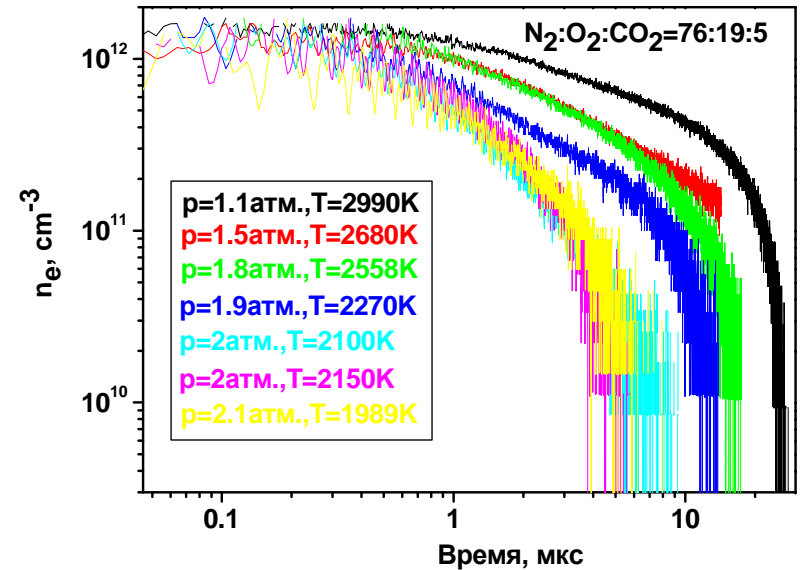
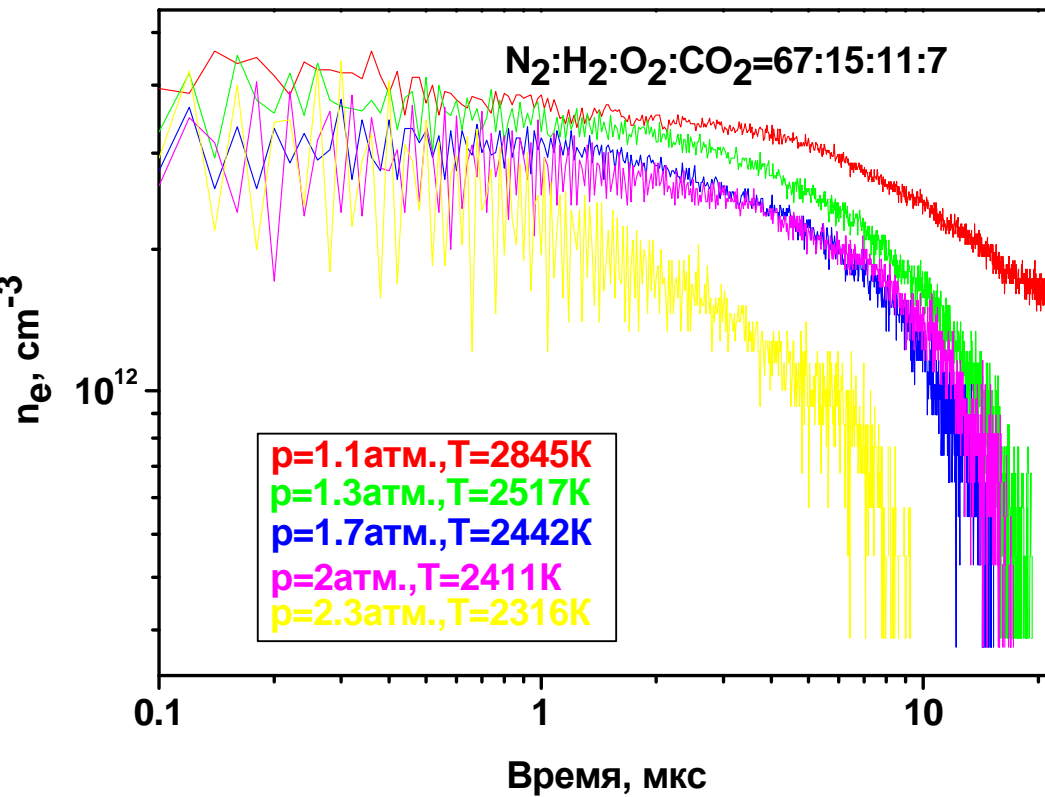
Aleksandrov et al. (2009)



CH<sub>4</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub>:Ar =  
1:4:15:80



# Plasma Recombination at High Pressures and Temperatures



$N_2:H_2:O_2:CO_2=67:15:11:7$

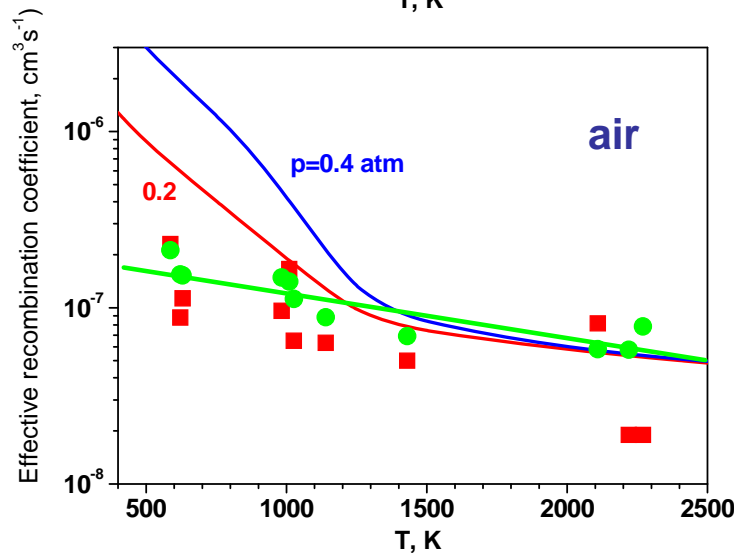
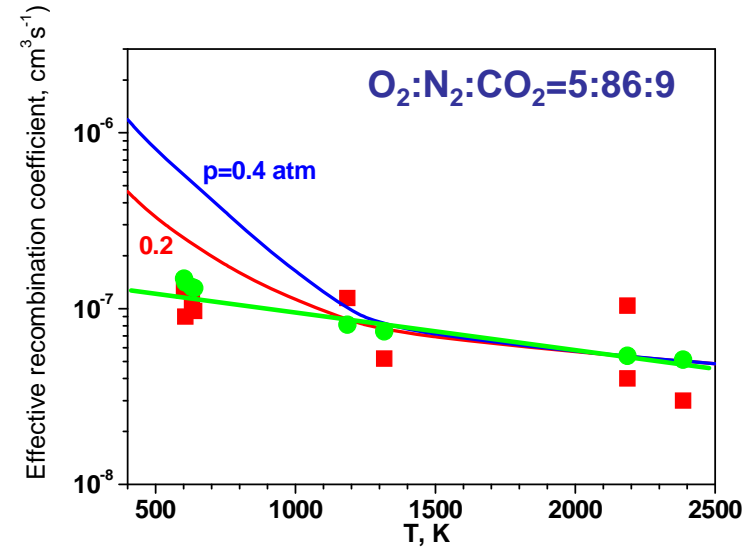
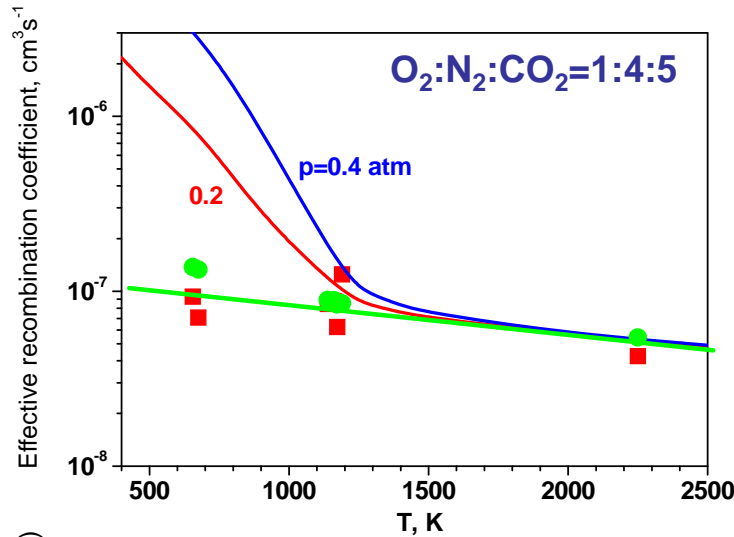


After 10  $\mu\text{s}$ , at 1 атм., 2800 K

$N_2:H_2O:O_2:OH:CO:CO_2:H:O:H_2=67:10:5:4:3.5:3:3:2$



# Evolution in Time of Electron Density During Plasma Decay



**Dissociative electron-ion recombination**  

$$e + O_2^+ \rightarrow O + O$$

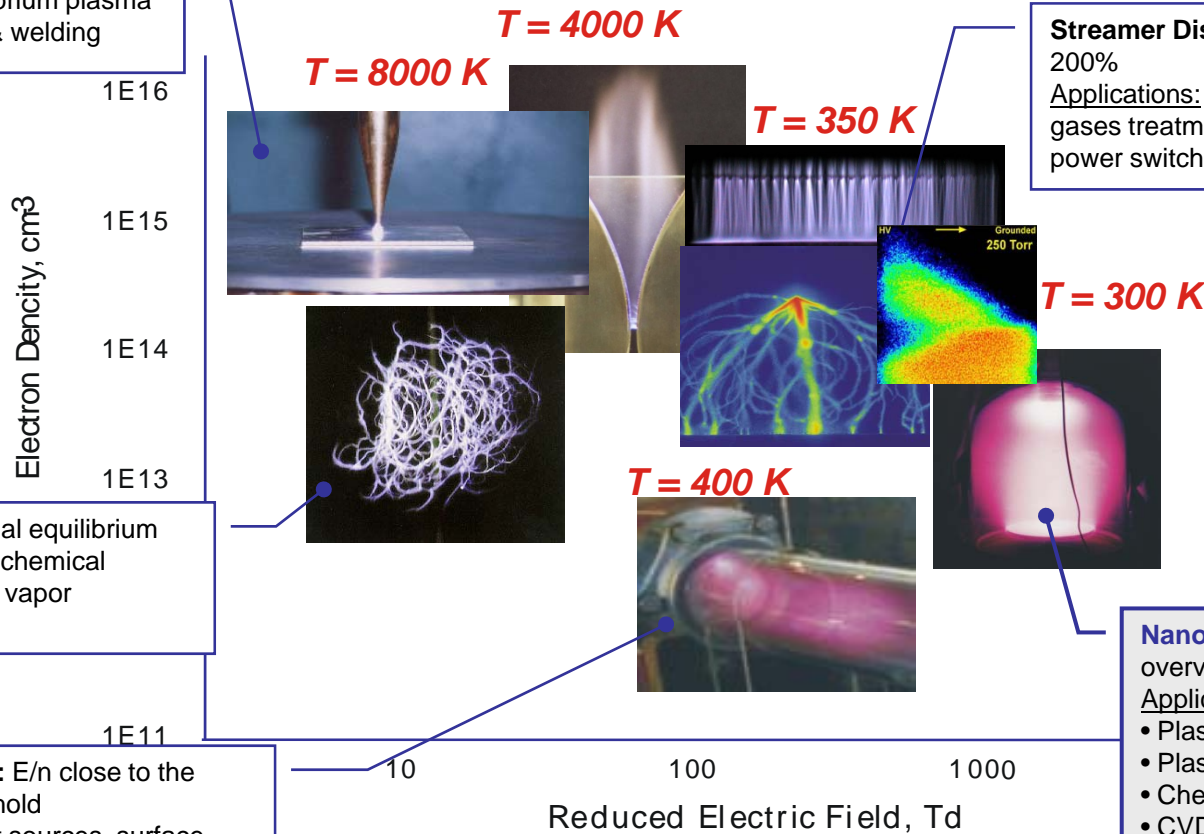
**Electron attachment and detachment**  

$$e + O_2 + M \rightarrow O_2^- + M$$

$$O_2^- + O \rightarrow e + O_3$$

# Types of Gas Discharges and Their Applications

**Arc Discharge:** equilibrium plasma  
Applications: melting & welding



**MW Discharge:** partial equilibrium  
Applications: plasma chemical conversion, chemical vapor deposition (CVD)

**Glow Discharge:** E/n close to the breakdown threshold  
Applications: light sources, surface treatment, CVD

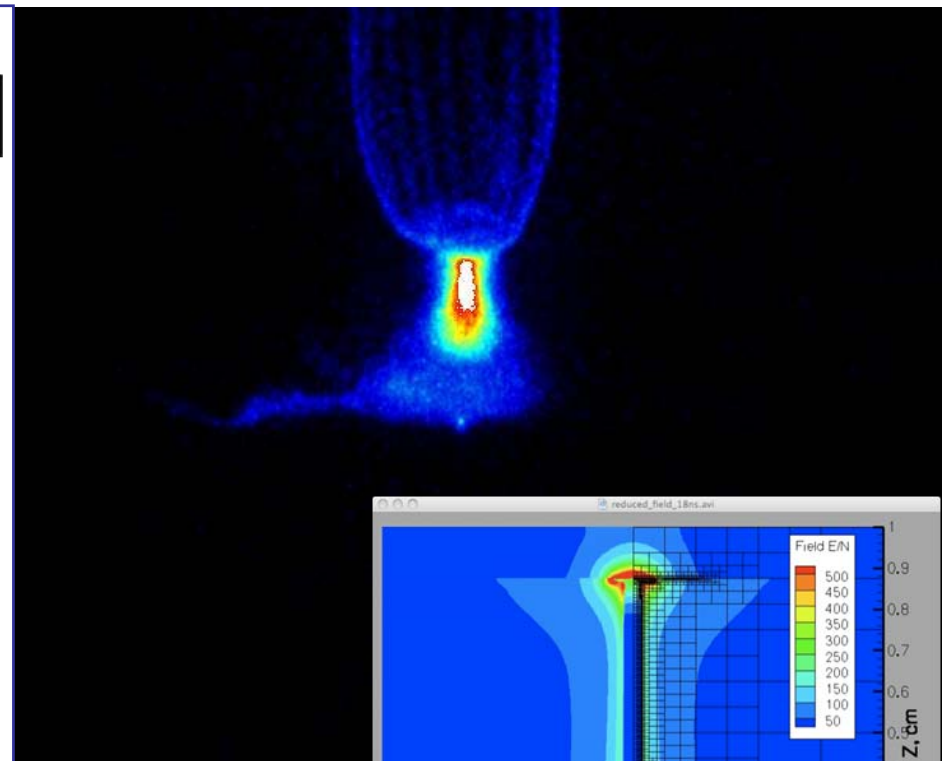
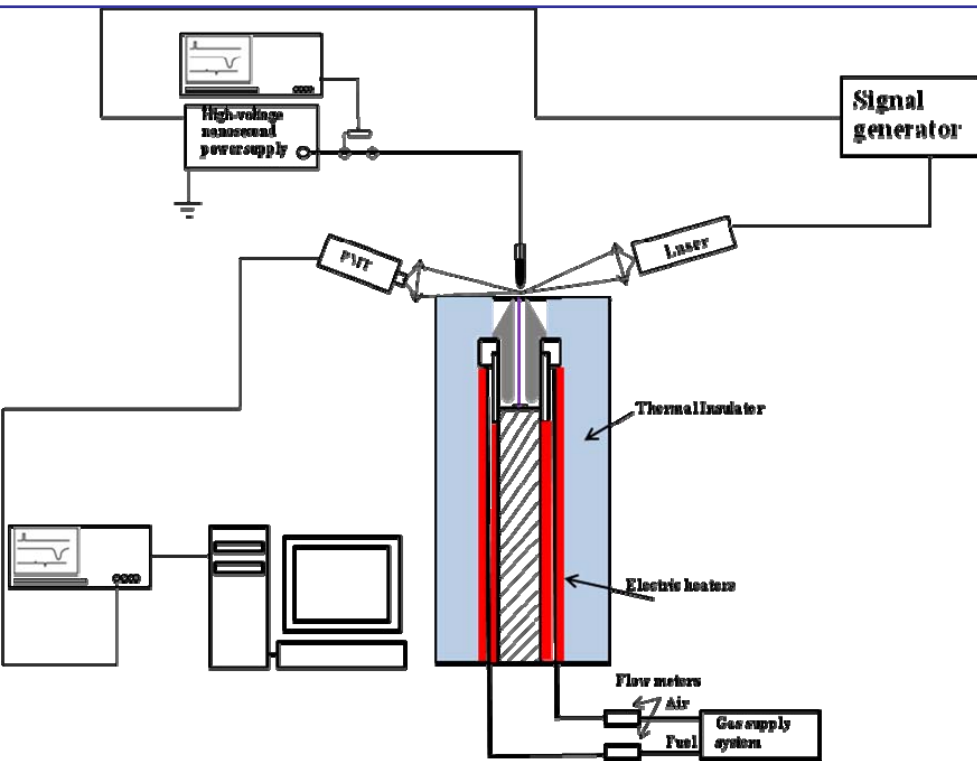
**Streamer Discharge:** overvoltage up to 200%  
Applications: surface treatment, flue gases treatment, electrical breakdown, power switches

**Nanosecond Pulsed Discharge:** overvoltage up to 10 times  
Applications:

- Plasma supported combustion
- Plasma supported aerodynamics
- Chemical conversion
- CVD

Discharge Development at Different Overvoltage and Plasma Generation

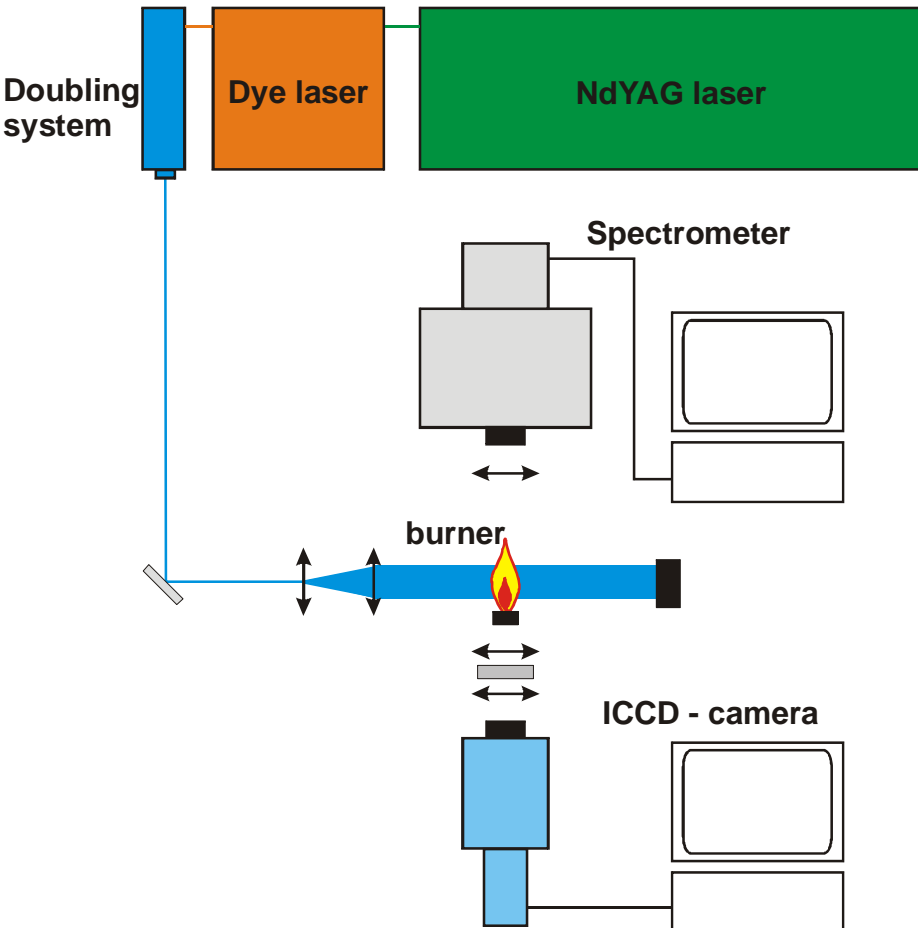
# Setup for OH Dynamic Measurements in Streamer Channel Afterglow



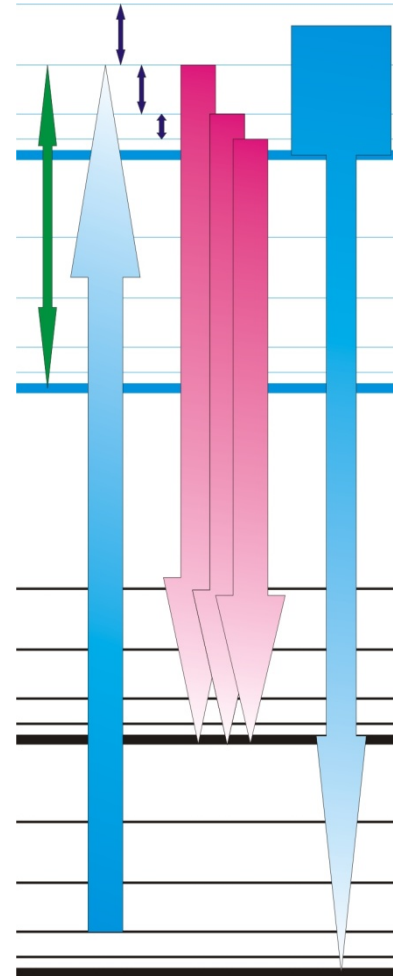
Pancheshnyi et al

# LIF Diagnostics Setup: OH Profile Control

## LIF OH

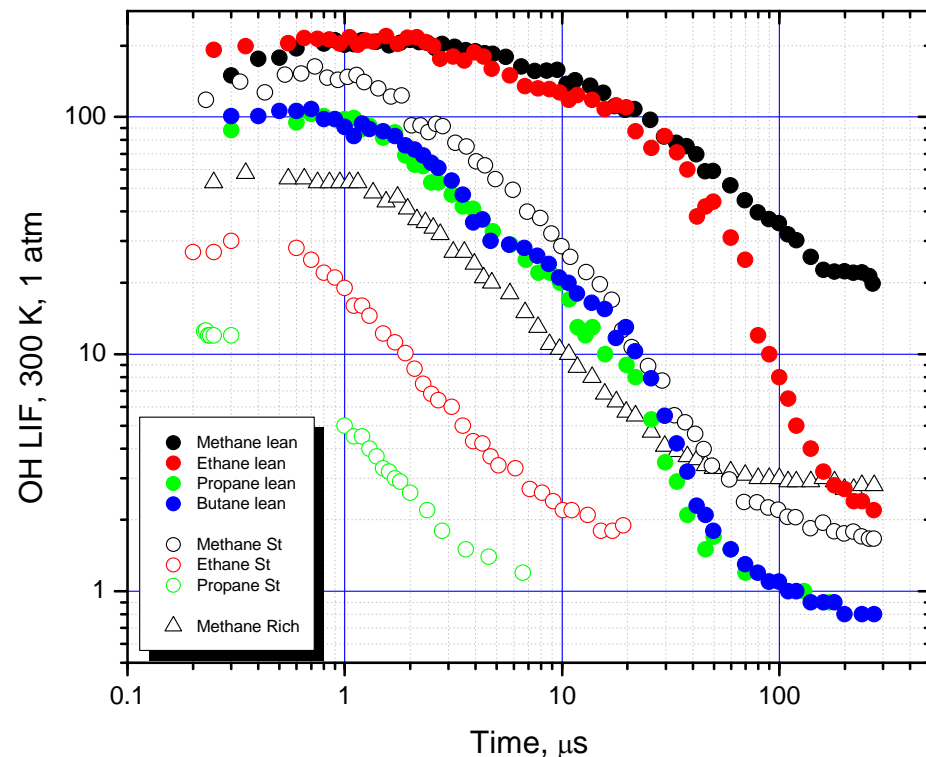
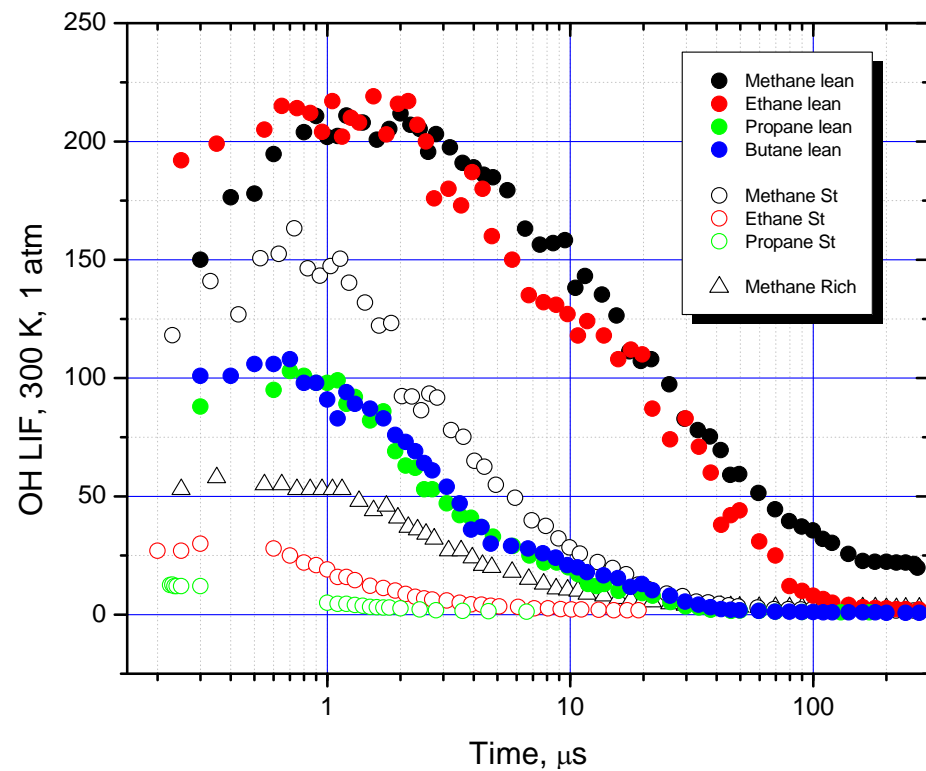


## LIF OH

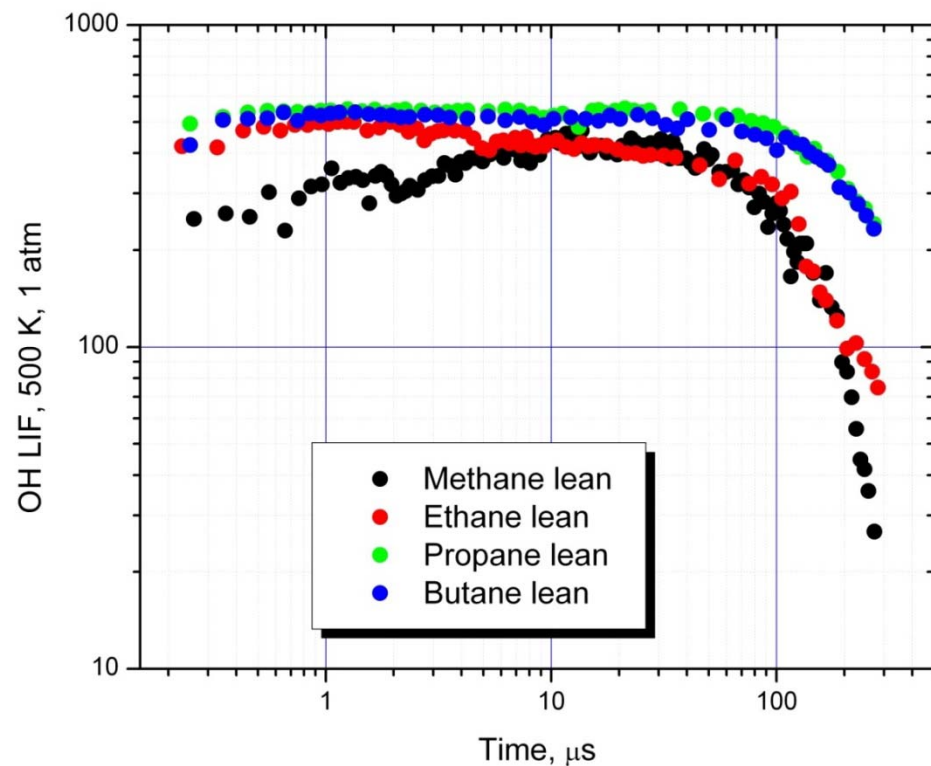
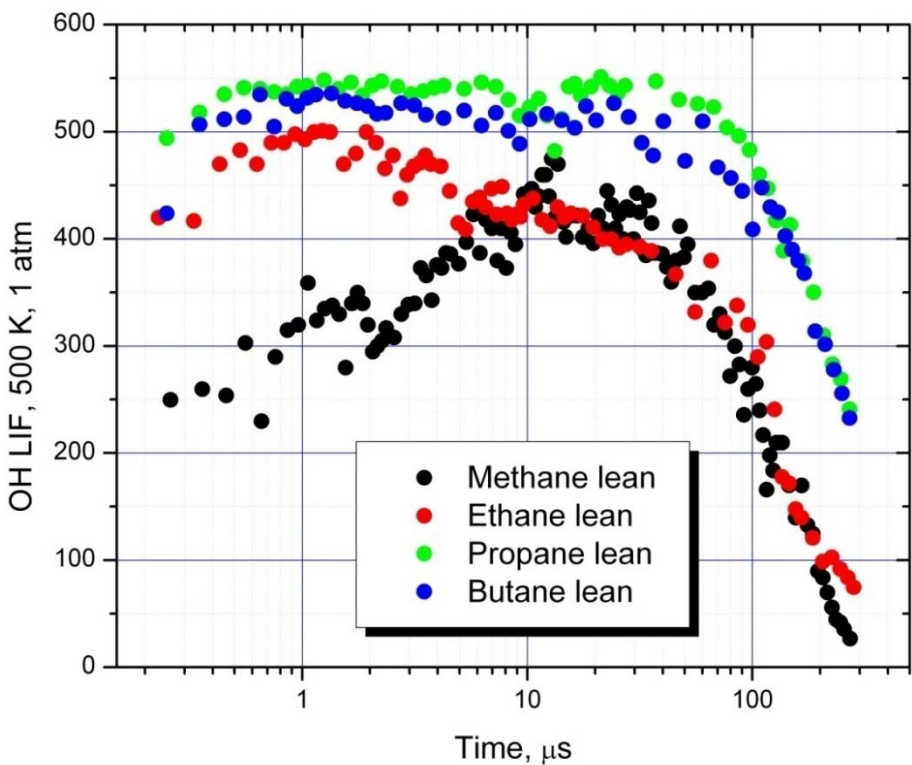


**OH (X-A):**  
**Excitation:  $Q_1(6)$**   
**282.92 nm;**  
**Emission:**  
**315nm,  $\delta\lambda=1.8$  nm;**  
**Registration –**  
**PicoStar LaVision**  
**ICCD camera**

# LIF Emission of OH at 300 K

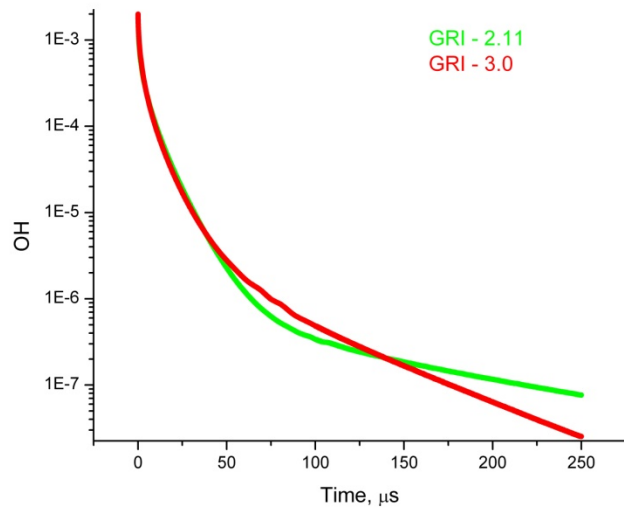
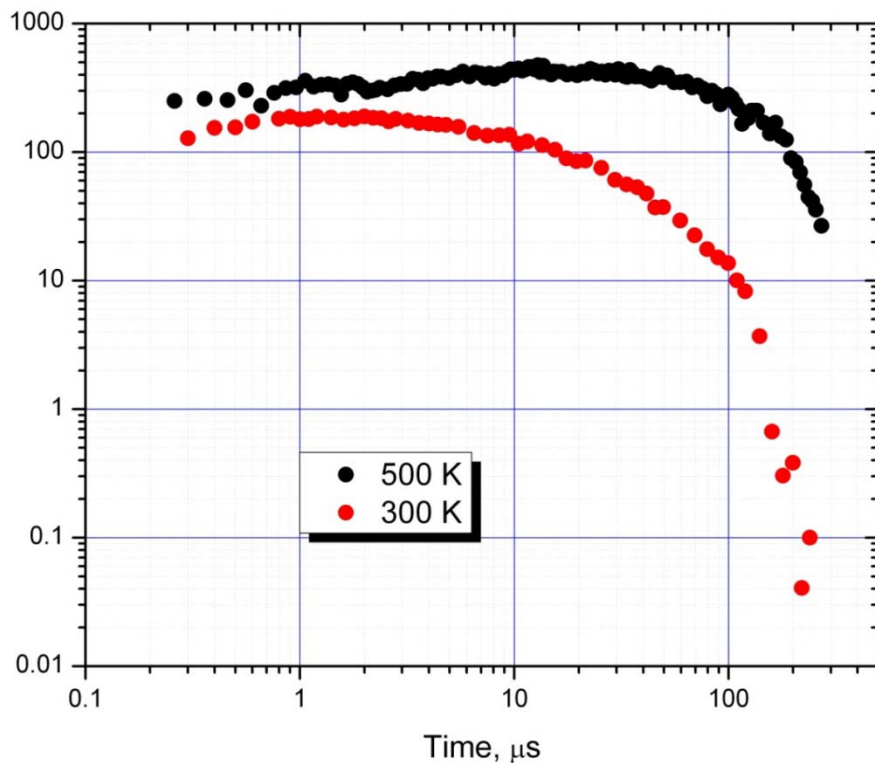


## LIF Emission of OH at 500 K



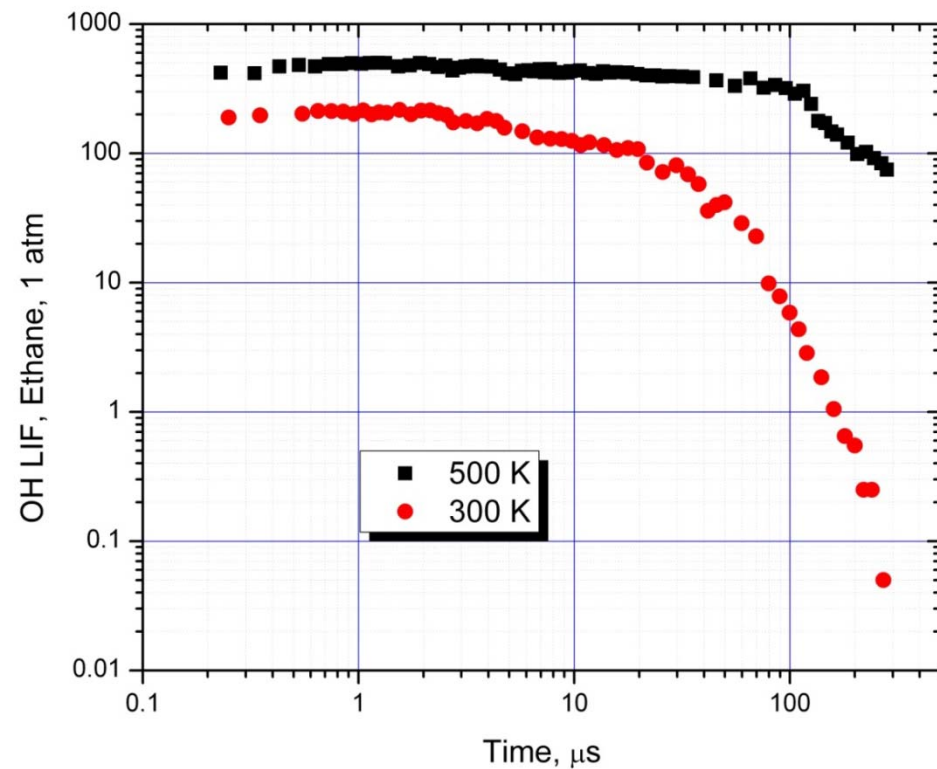
# 300 K Versus 500 K LIF of OH

OH LIF, Methane, 1 atm



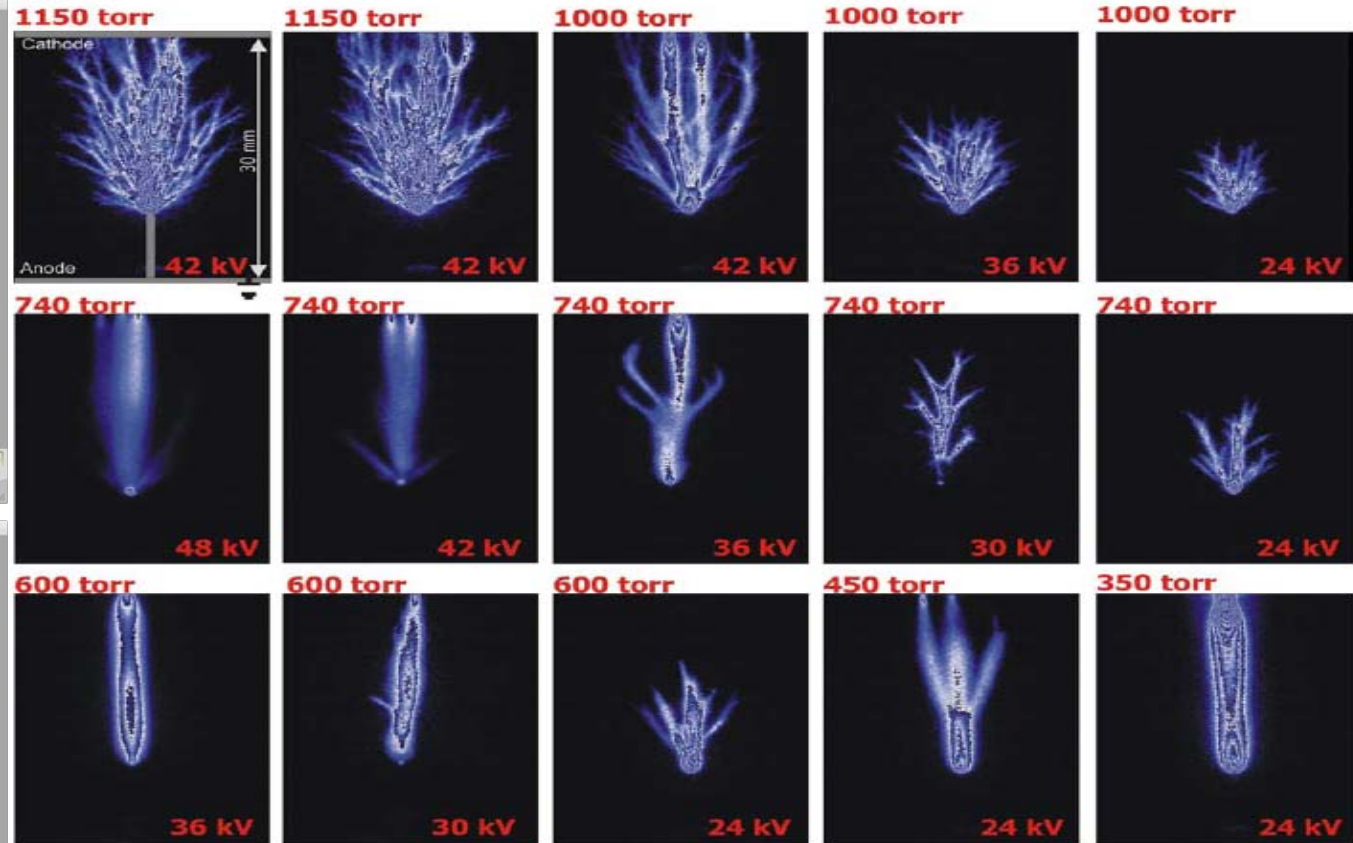
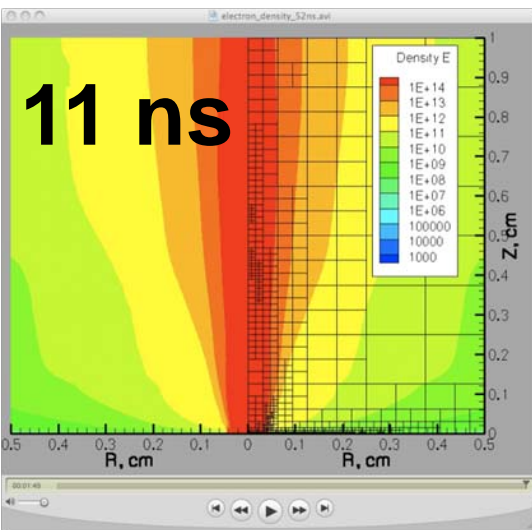
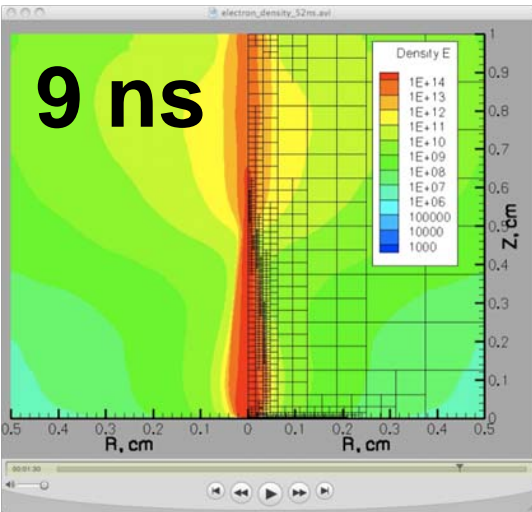
Methane

Ethane





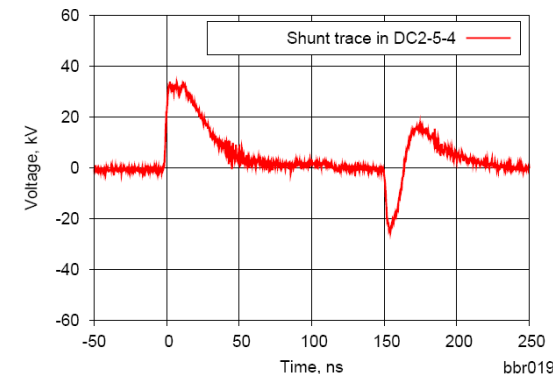
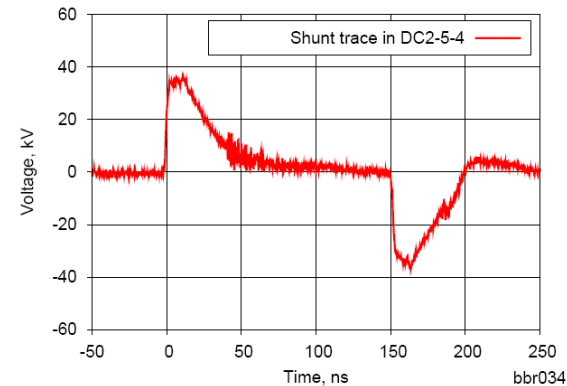
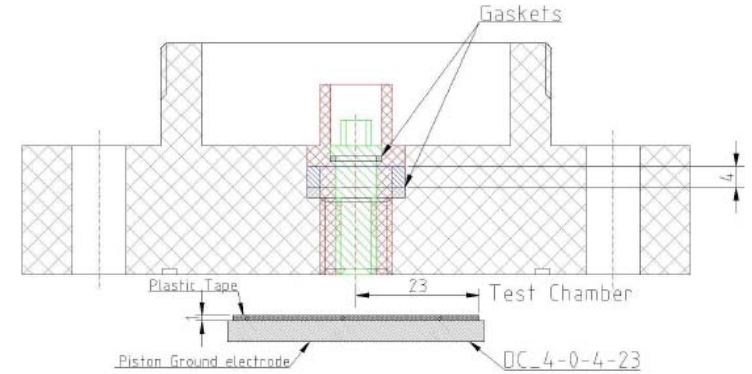
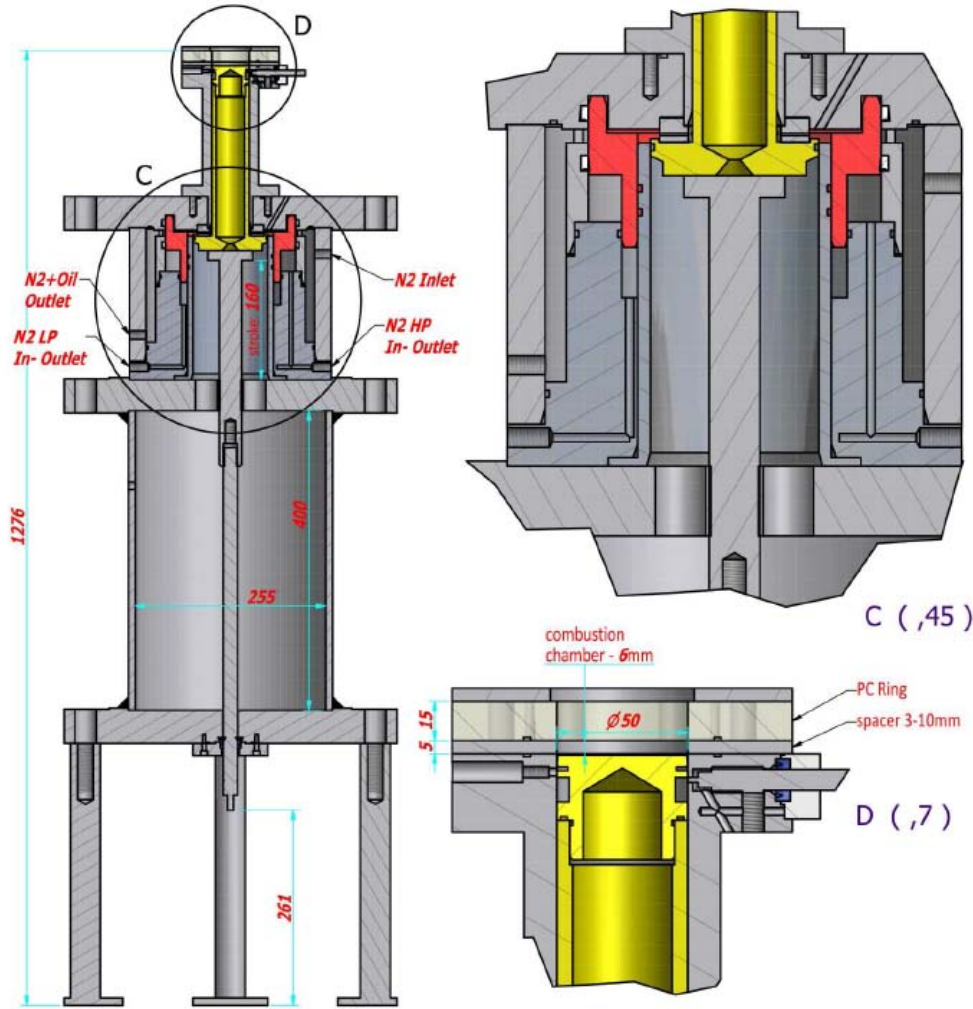
# High-pressure Conditions: Always Non-Uniform



**Pancheshnyi et al**

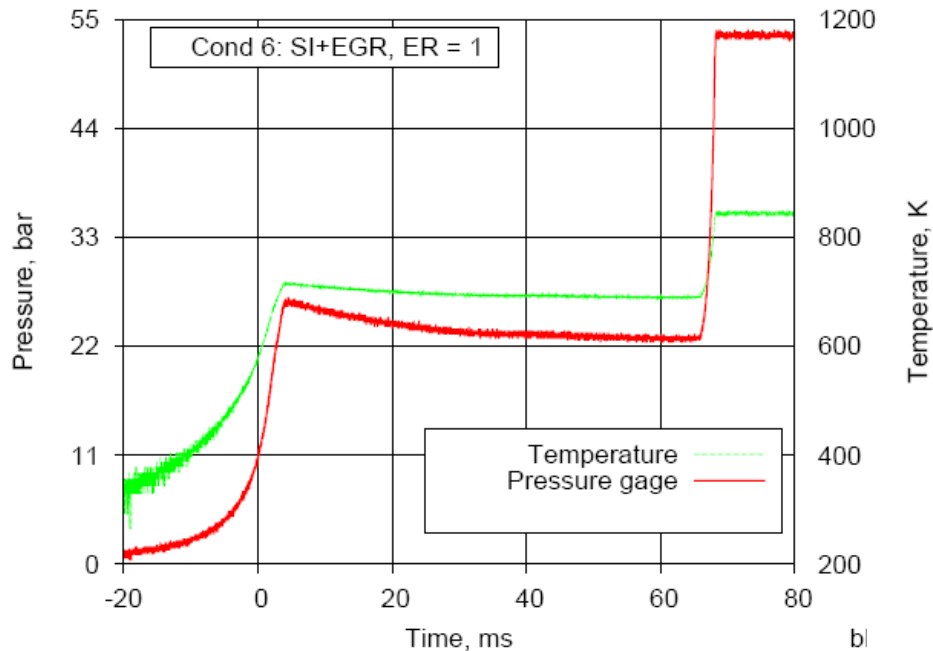


# Rapid Compression Machine: High-Pressure, Low-Temperature

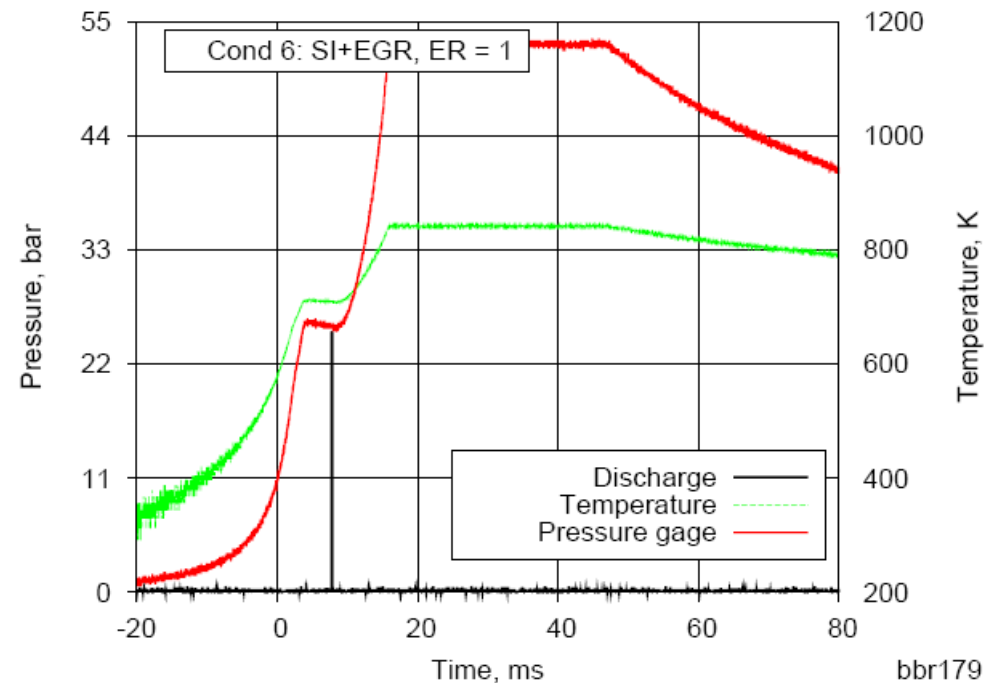


# PAC at High Pressure: ER = 1 (Rakitin et al)

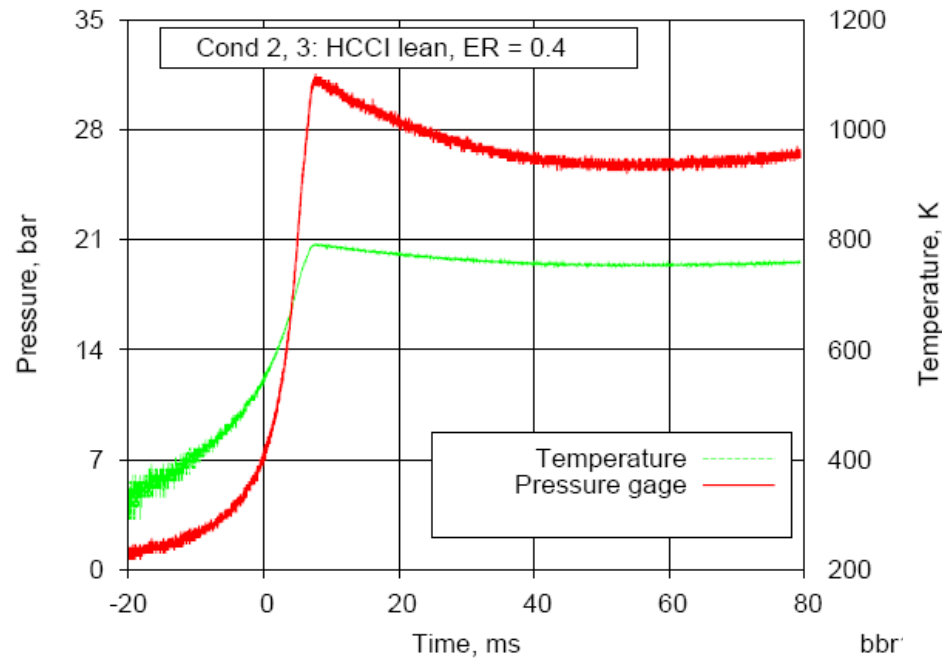
**T2 = 713 K**  
**P2 = 26.5 bar**



**Propane,**  
**Surface DBD,**  
**< 50mJ**

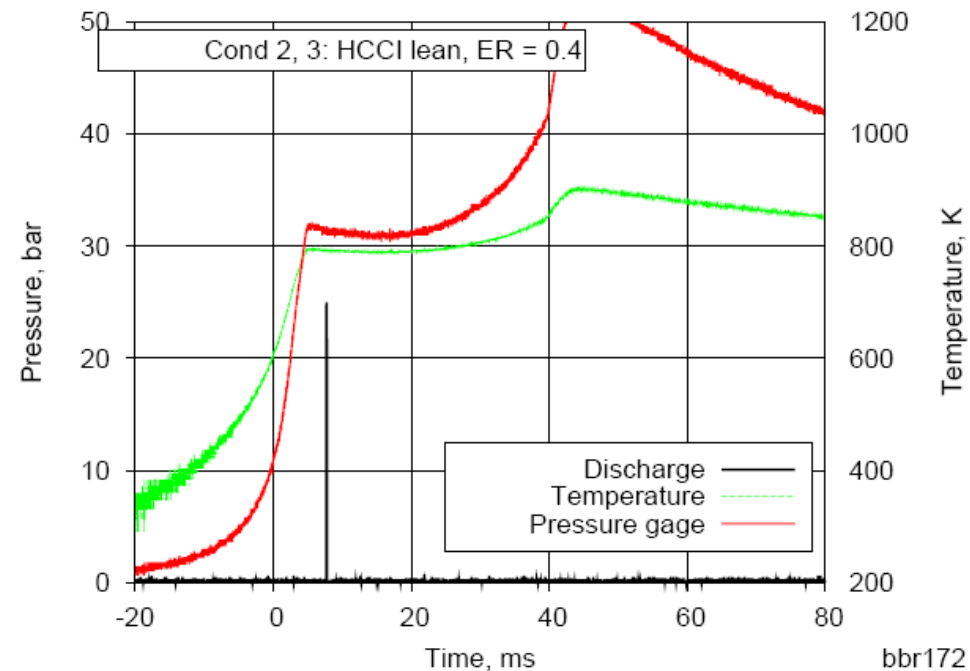


# PAC at High Pressure: ER = 0.4 (Rakitin et al)



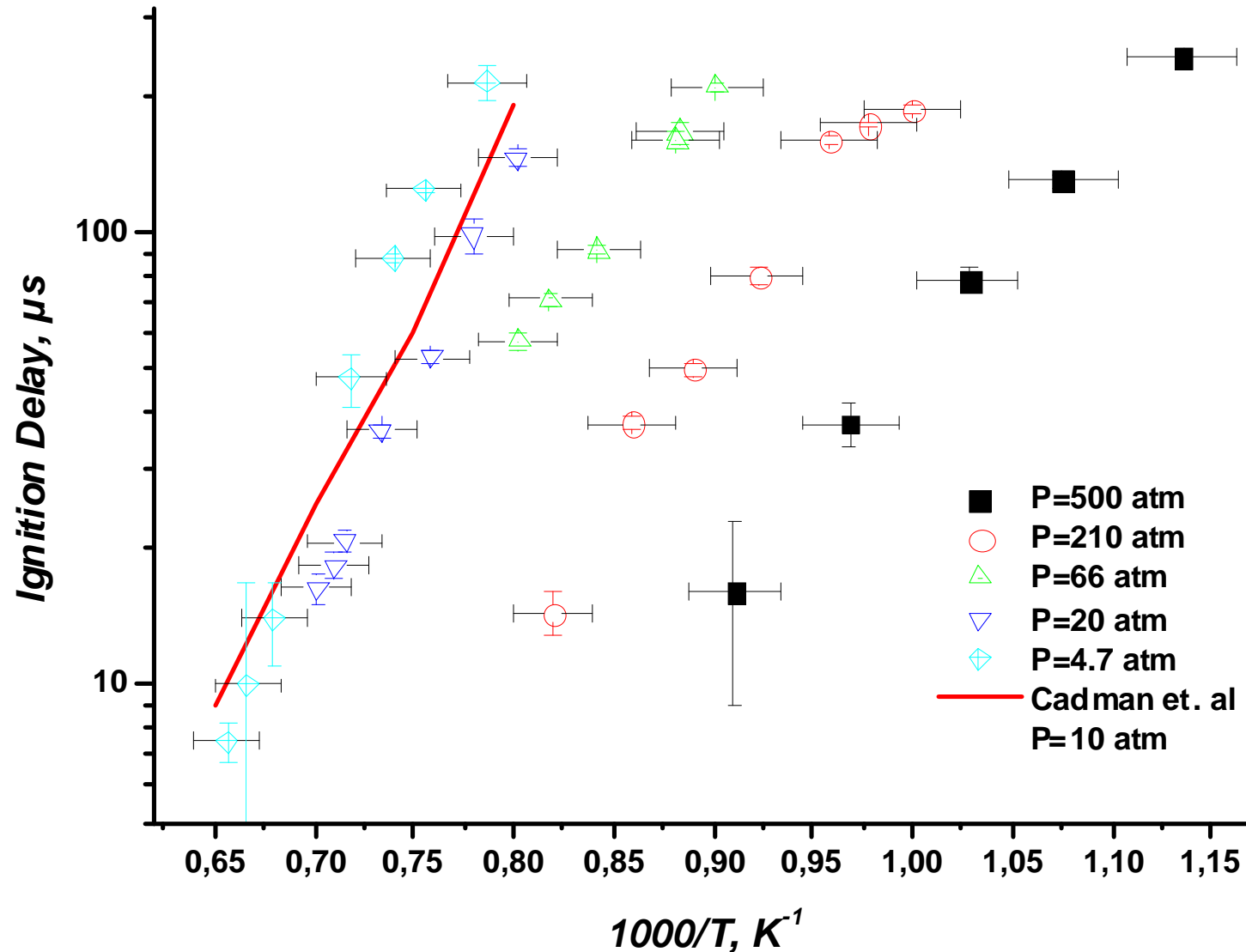
**T2 = 794 K**  
**P2 = 32 bar**

**Propane,  
Surface DBD,  
< 50mJ**

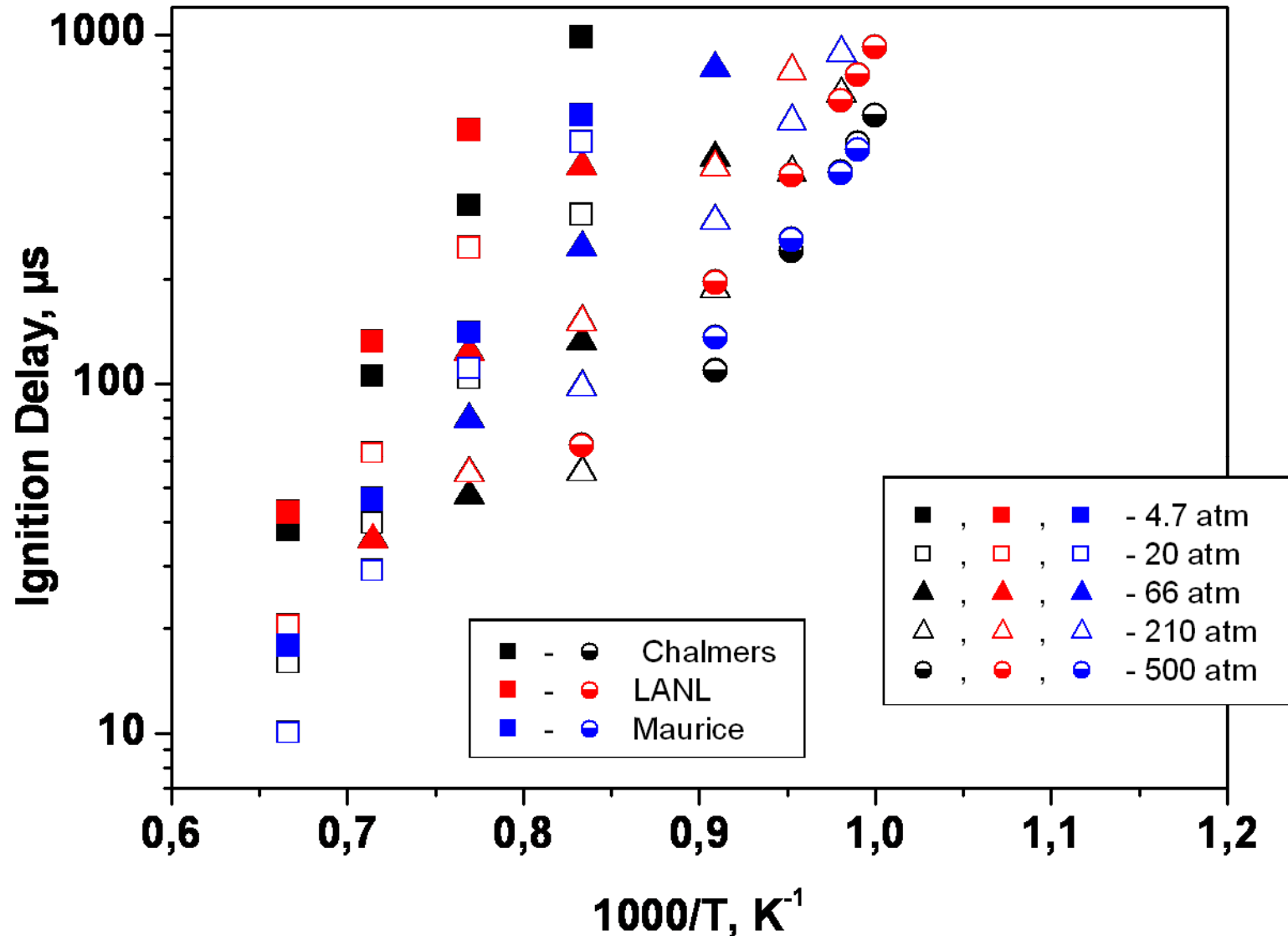


# Propane-Butane-Air Lean Mixtures.

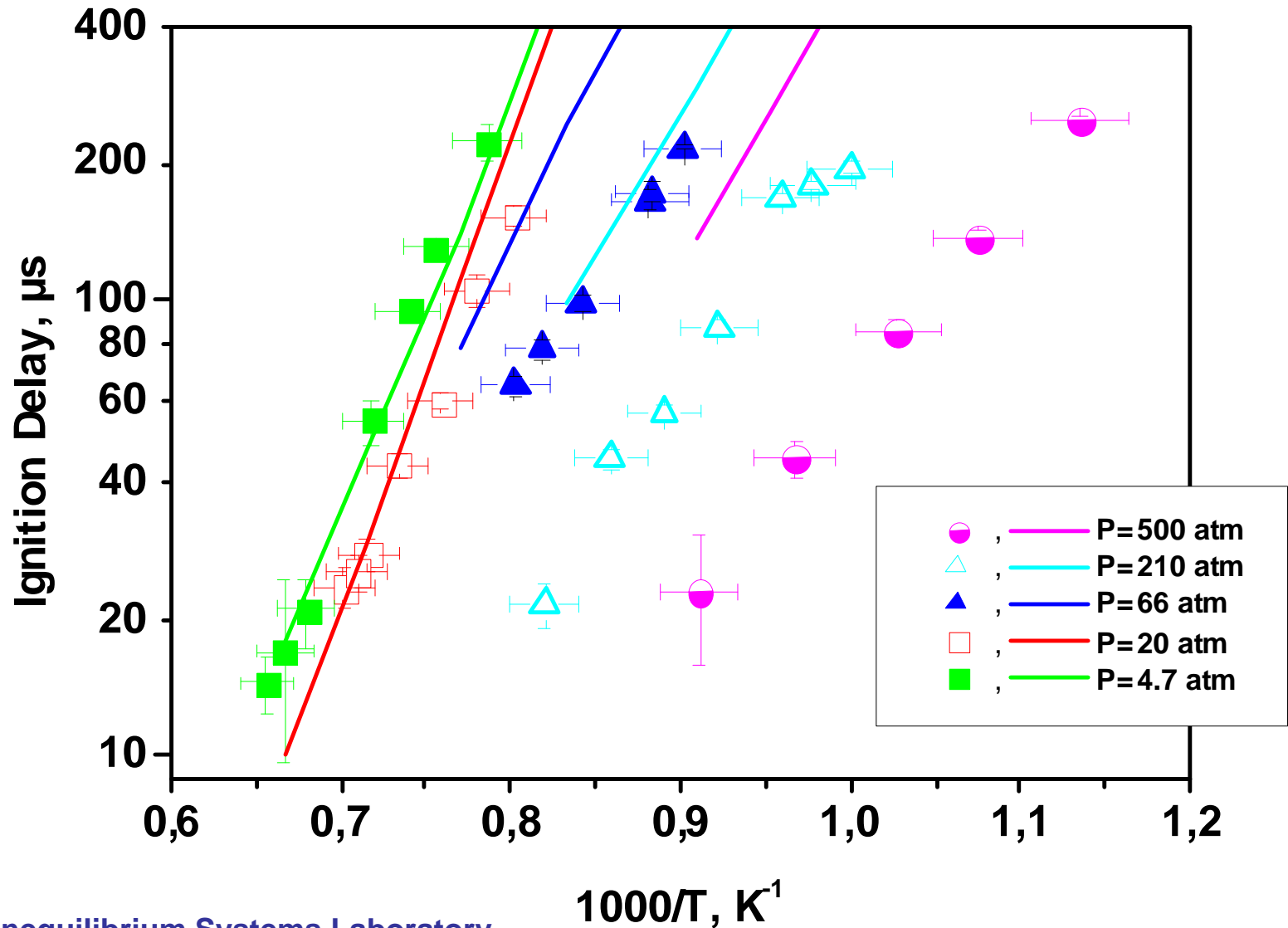
## $\phi = 0.5$ ( $C_3:C_4=85:15$ )



# Propane-Butane-Air Mixture Ignition. $\phi = 0.5$ ( $C_3:C_4=85:15$ ). Calculations



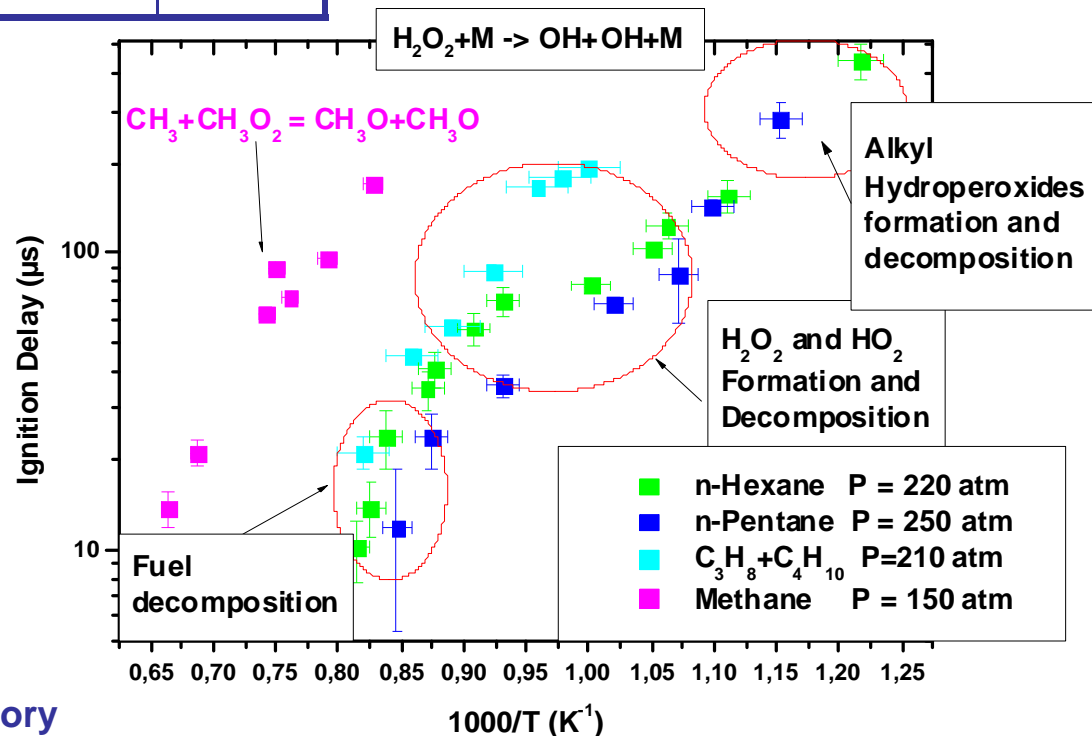
# Propane-Butane-Air Mixture Ignition. Experiment vs Calculations.



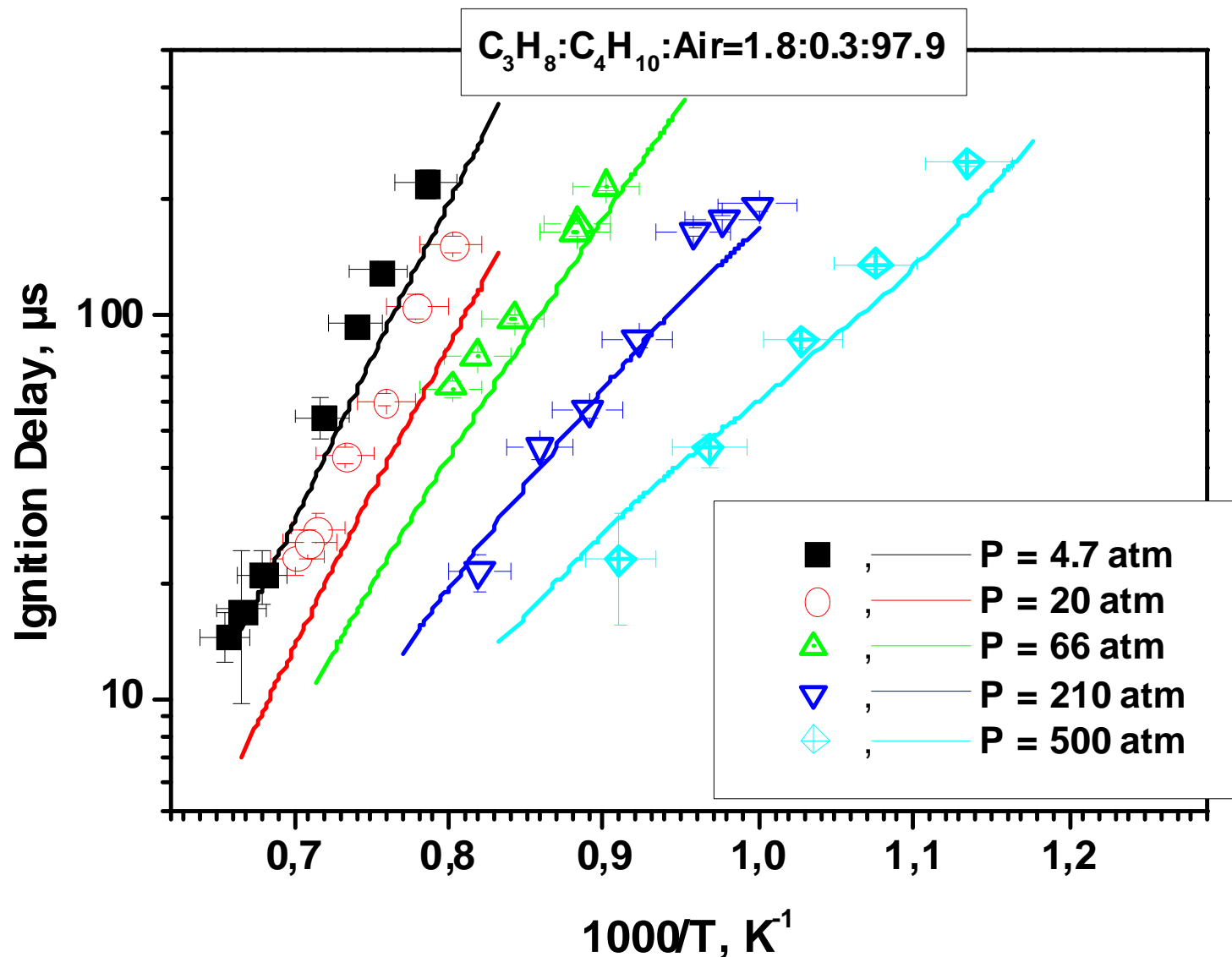
# Channels of Kinetic Scheme Optimization

Reaction	T	k
$C_3H_8 + HO_2 = C^{\cdot}H_2C_2H_5 + H_2O_2$	1200	2.5
$C_3H_8 + HO_2 = CH_3C^{\cdot}HCH_3 + H_2O_2$	1200	2.5
$O_2C_3H_7 = HOOCH_2C^{\cdot}HCH_3$	800-1000	0.2
$CH_3CHO_2CH_3 = CH_3CH(OOH)C^{\cdot}H_2$	800-1000	0.2
$OCHCH(OOH)CH_3 = CH_3CHO + HCO + OH$	800	0.2
$OCHCH_2CH(OOH)_2 = CH_2O + CH_2CHO + OH$	800	0.2
$CH_3COCH_2(OOH) = CH_2O + CH_3CO + OH$	800	0.2

Konnov,  
Potapkin

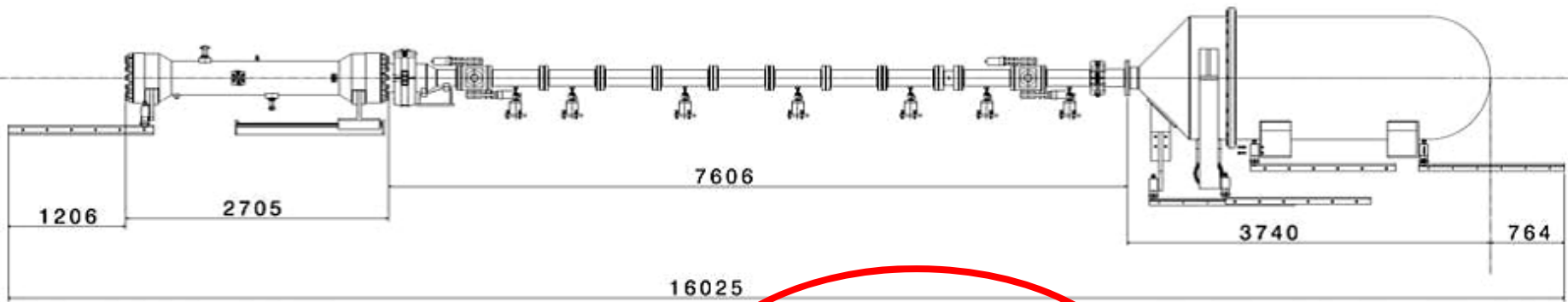


# Mixture $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8:\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}:\text{Air} = 1.8:0.3:97.9$





# Discharge Formation and Flame Stabilization in High Speed Flow



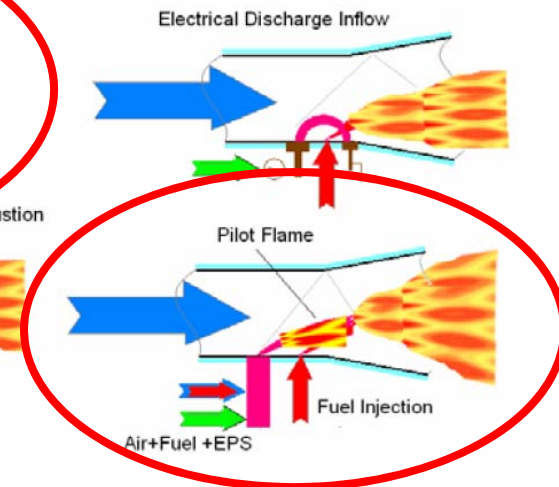
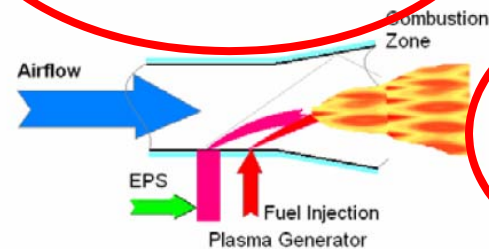
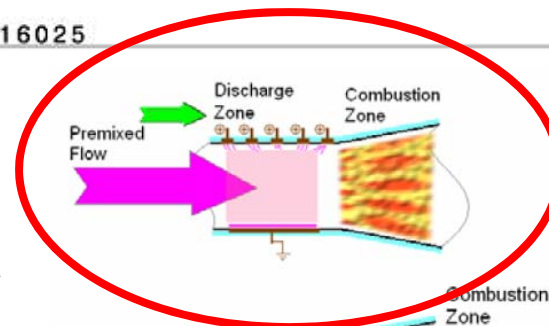
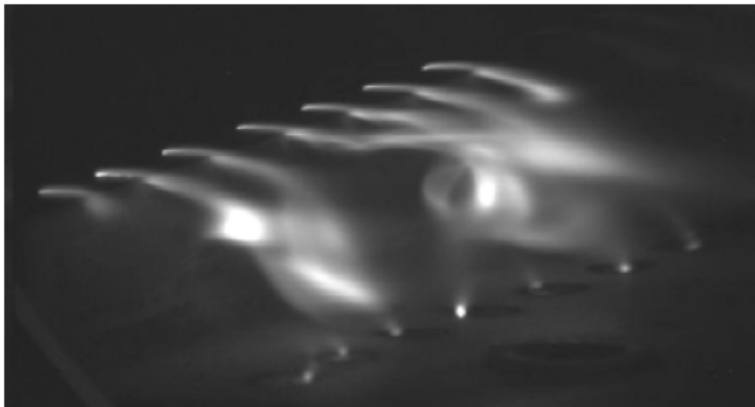
**IVTAN (Sergey Leonov):**

$M = 2$

Maximal stagnation pressure 1.8 Bar

Stagnation temperature 670 K

Discharge Power  $\sim 1$  kW



**DPI Shock Tunnel:**

$M = 2-5$

Static pressure 0.1 - 1 Bar

Static temperature 700-1000 K

Discharge Power  $\sim 1$  kW

# Summary

## Range of Parameters

$P = 0.1 - 70 \text{ atm}$

$T = 300 - 2000 \text{ K}$

$M = 0 - 5$

$\phi = 0.01 - 1$

$E/n = 200\text{-}500 \text{ Td (Air)}$

Fuels:  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_1 - \text{C}_4$

Acetones, Alcohols, CO

## Experiment:

Shock Tube

Shock Tunnel

Rapid Compression Machine

Premixed Flow Nozzle

## Theory:

Discharge Models

Plasma Models

Chemical Kinetic Models